Press Conferences

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INTERVIEWS WITH MARK HENDRICKS, KOIN-TV, CHANNEL 6, PORTLAND (CBS AFFILIATED); SCOTT MILLER, KGW-TV, CHANNEL 8, PORTLAND (NBC AFFILIATED); ROBERTA ULRICH, THE OREGONIAN, PORTLAND; RICHARD WAGNER, CBS NETWORK; BRIAN ECKER, ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND; DON LATTIN, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER; PETE KING, LOS ANGELES TIMES; STEVE DAVIS, KGO-TV, SAN FRANCISCO (CHANNEL 7); BILL GRAVES, BEND BULLETIN; GREY HOY, SEVEN NETWORK, AUSTRALIA; SWAMI ANAND VIDEHA, ITALY; LES ZAITZ, THE OREGONIAN, PORTLAND; TOM STEVENSON, THE DALLES CHRONICLE, THE DALLES; MA MARY CATHERINE, THE RAJNEESH TIMES; GERALD ERICKSON, THE DALLES WEEKLY REMINDER; TED VIRAMONTE, MADRAS PIONEER, MADRAS; JACKIE JOHNSON, K-BEND RADIO, BEND; MA VIREN, ESPRESSO MAGAZINE, PANORAMA MAGAZINE AND EUROPEO, ITALY; SUSAN BARR, Q104, THE DALLES; BOB SMITH, KPRB RADIO, REDMOND; ALEX KING, KACI RADIO, THE DALLES; FRED BREUNING, NEWSDAY, NEW YORK.

(Introductions of new corporation officers have been omitted in this transcript.)

ISABEL: OSHO, I HAVE TOLD THE PRESS YOU WILL GIVE A STATEMENT BEFORE THEY ASK QUESTIONS.

OSHO: This is a moment of great rejoicing for my commune. I have been silent for three and a half years. The people who were in power took advantage of my silence. Because I was not in contact with the sannyasins, I was not aware what is being done to them. As I started speaking again, a strange thing happened. Sheela became very sad. She was the president of the Rajneesh Foundation International and my personal secretary. Everybody in the commune was immensely ecstatic that I am speaking again except Sheela. This was strange. But just within few days it became clear what is the reason. While I was in isolation and in silence, she has become a celebrity. Through the news media she has become famous all over the world. She was representing me. Because I started speaking again, she found that her ego is shrinking, her image from the television screen is disappearing. It was bound to be so. If I am speaking myself, then there is no need for any mediator, any messenger, any representative. She started going more and more to Australia, to India, to Europe, for any small excuse. Finally when she came back she wrote a letter to me that, "I don't find the same excitement as I used to find before. But I am happy in Europe, happy in Japan, happy in Australia." I replied to her that, "If you want to know the real reason of your happiness, I can come to Europe, to Australia, to Japan, wherever you want to check what is the real reason of your happiness. You have become addicted to be famous, and this is a far worse drug than any drug in existence." And my sannyasins are not power-oriented. They are not political people. They are absolutely apolitical.

The world has suffered too much from politics. At least let few intelligent people decide to be dropouts from all dirty politics -- and there is no other kind.

And then suddenly one day, just one day before, Sheela and all her gang simply left America, without even giving any cause why they are leaving. It was strange. And the moment they left, other sannyasins started informing things which are ugly, sad, but I have to say them to you because I don't want to happen such things again in this commune or anywhere else. The moment their airplane left, immediately people started coming, saying so many things that they have done while I was in silence, that it seemed, listening to them, that instead of being a meditation commune they had turned it into a fascist concentration camp.

First they tried to kill three people, three people who were very close to me: my physician, my dentist and my caretaker. Because these were the three people who had the opportunity to meet me except Sheela. She wanted nobody to meet me, for the simple reason because they may inform me what is going on in the commune and what she is doing there. So finally they decided that these three people have to be given slow poison. Now there are witnesses who participated in their meetings, but they were afraid that if these people can kill my physician, they can kill anybody. One woman who has reported that she was in the meeting and left in the middle, disgusted, feeling sick, that what kind of people are these? And the innocent sannyasins trusted them absolutely. But she herself became so much afraid that for six months she has not eaten the food in the commune's restaurant. She was getting food from outside. And it really happened. My caretaker once went into Jesus Grove where Sheela and her gang was living. She took a cup of tea and fell immediately sick. And the sickness was absolutely strange. She is healthy, young, there was no reason for it. Doctors could not find any reason why her heart is beating so fast. For three hours the heart was going

just crazy. All their medicines were of not much help. But nobody thought about it, that she has taken a cup of tea and somebody could have poisoned him. But it happened to Devaraj, my physician. After few days he took a cup of coffee in Jesus Grove and came from there. Because he is a doctor, has the highest qualifications from England, he immediately suspected that he has been poisoned. He was entered into the nursing home here, and there too he was injected poison again. And now many people have come, that Sheela was researching for some poison which can in slow doses kill a person in a long period of time, so nobody will suspect.

Third time, here in this meditation hall Devaraj was injected again. He immediately showed to people around him, pulled his pants and showed blood where the injection has been put. They delayed the ambulance to come here. All these informations have come within two days. The ambulance people have informed that they were told to delay as much as possible, then take him as slowly -- because he refused to go to the medical center here. He was to be taken to Bend. So "Take him slowly to the airport." And the pilots were informed that there is no hurry : "Go as slow as possible." And these were the poisons which are not detectable. He remained sick, became okay. Hasya was his wife, was looking after him. The doctors in Bend told Hasya there was no disease, it seems to be simply a case of certain poisoning which cannot be detected. They said exactly the same has happened one year before to the attorney of Jefferson County, Sullivan. He was poisoned in the same way. Nobody knows, perhaps the same people who had poisoned Devaraj were poisoning Sullivan, because this commune's land is divided half in Wasco County, half in Jefferson County, and it has much to do with the attorney of Jefferson County.

Many more things have surfaced. We are reporting to the police, to the government, because the whole bunch has immediately disappeared and they must have been planning for months. One information has come that at the election time last year, Sheela and her group of six, seven people tried to put chemicals in all the vehicles of police and officers in Dalles, so the vehicles could not move. And they were successful. Not only that, what I cannot even conceive, they tried to poison the water system in Dalles. They did not succeed in it, but they made every attempt.

Now, these people are absolutely criminals, inhuman, brutal, fascist in their outlook. Here in the commune they were sorting out anybody who had any independent mind. And my whole teaching is to have independent mind! Don't believe anything unless you know it. Be skeptical. But because I was silent, they were doing just the other. They were saying, "Believe, and surrender. And all these instructions are coming from Osho." They were making their instructions, people were writing letters to me, they were never reaching to me. They had created a small fascist state here, so many people left just because of them who wanted to be here with me, who have come from long away, who have sold their everything just to be here with me. With tears in their eyes they had to leave, because they could not surrender to any stupid kind of thing. For example, if you tell somebody that, "Go and poison" or "Inject poison to somebody," they could not believe that this can be my instruction. And they have come here for me, not for Sheela.

I have been teaching my whole life that my people have to be absolutely nonpolitical, but in three and a half years Sheela was functioning just like a politician, third-grade politician. It was ugly to take over Antelope. We are here, just guests of Oregonians. To take those poor old people's house does not seem right. I would like the Oregonians and the people of Antelope, if they can buy the properties which Foundation owns, we will vacate Antelope. They can have their place. That is their town. It belongs to them. And we have no hostility

against anybody. In fact, we are part of Oregon to them. And we have no hostility against anybody. In fact, we are part of Oregon now. It does not matter that you have been hundred years here and we have been only four years. Years don't make any difference. Now this earth is ours, this sky is ours. And we have done everything to change this desert into an oasis. And we want to change this whole place in such a lush green holiday resort that it becomes the best tourist center in America.

We need all support from Oregonians, from Americans, from everybody. Ours hands are stretched and waiting for their hands. In the last press conference, the first journalist had asked me, "Is there any possibility for coexistence between You and Oregonians?" I said, "Never!" And before I could elaborate and make clear my inplications of the word never, the journalist have moved! I said "For coexistence, never." But not for one existence. Coexistence implies hostility. It means we are hostile, but what to do? Just destiny has brought us together, somehow we have to manage to live. Coexistence is not a beautiful word. That's why I have said, :"Never. Coexistence never! One existence, ever."

We can understand, human nature is always suspicious of strangers. We are strangers. If they are suspicious of us, there is nothing to be disappointed. Just we have to make them aware of our way of life, our creativity, our joy, our celebration. Just we have to welcome them as guests, just to have a feel that we are human beings. Red clothes don't make any difference. Everybody behind the clothes is naked, red or blue or black does not make any sense.

I have called you media people here especially to inform you a glad news, that this commune is free from a fascist regime. Adolf Hitler has died again. And now we would like in every possible way to be an intrinsic part of Oregon, to contribute whatsoever we can contribute, and expect your friendship, your love, your hospitality. And you will never repent that we came here. We will make this place so beautiful that Oregon will be proud of it. When we had come just four years before, there was only one house, and one hundred twenty-six square mile desert For fifty years there was nobody to purchase it. It was for sale for fifty years. Who is going to purchase a desert? But when I heard that it is a desert, I said, "It is a good challenge. Let us try to make it an oasis." And we have immensely succeeded. But that success goes to my sannyasins, not to that fascist gang. These people have been working twelve hours, fourteen hours a day. And those people were trying to kill our own sannyasins. They were going to kill whole Dalles. And just because I was absent, uninformed, they have taken in their hands whatsoever they wanted to do.

You will be surprised to know that they far transcended Nixon. They bugged houses, they bugged every place where they thought somebody may be not in favor of them. But strangest thing is my own bedroom, my own sitting room, was bugged. And to me they were saying, "We love You, Osho. We have never loved anybody so much." Of course. If you had not loved me, why you should bug my bedroom, where I am alone? Perhaps once in a while in sleep I may deliver a speech. But what else is there to be bugged? It seems these people could have even killed me. Because my silence was favorable to them, my absence would have been more favorable. And if I was dead, they could have worshiped my dead body, made a beautiful marble memorial, and be in full power to do whatsoever they want to do.

I came to know only late that they are bringing street people for a program here. They had already planned, people had gone to pick up, buses had moved. And I asked, "What is the reason?" Because I am not much interested in uneducated, illiterate, street beggars. I am not much interested. My interest is in intelligentsia. All my people are university graduates with masters' degrees or doctors' degrees. I don't want to lower the standard of the commune.

But they said, "It is only for three months, and we are having it because we have surplus money out of the festival, two and half million dollars we have more, so we can share in some humanitarian work." And this was a lie. They were even lying to me, because today I inquired and found that we are fifty-five million in debt. They wasted almost three million dollars and created unnecessary hostility, created some ugly publicity. We are not interested in publicity. We are certainly interested that whatever is the truth about us should be known by everyone, so nobody lives in deceptions, gossips. But we are not interested in publicity. We really want that we forget the whole world and the world forgets us and forgives us, so we can live here silently and peacefully and do our thing.

And then they made in Antelope a housing complex, and never told me exactly what are their intentions about it. I thought it must be for festival purposes, when more sannyasins are there. Only at the last date, next day they were going to have a press conference, and they had to inform me because I was going to be in the press conference. If I had been silent there was no need even to inform me. They informed me that they want to make that housing complex, which can accommodate five hundred people, and they have wasted almost two million dollars on it, they want to make it a AIDS home. I said, "It is good that you are feeling so compassionate about people who are having AIDS, but you should think also of all the people around Antelope whose life will be in danger. You can put the whole life of Oregon in danger, because AIDS spreads not only by sex contact, it can spread, just by kissing. It can spread even by somebody's tear. It can spread, somebody eating with a spoon is not sterilized and you use it. Saliva is a carrier." I said, "This is not right. You are not only putting whole Oregon's people in great danger, you are putting our own commune in danger. Our doctors will have to look after them. Our nurses will have to look after them. And the same doctor and the same nurses will be looking after the commune." I had to stop it. That's why the great press conference that was going to happen did not happen. Instead, this great press conference is happening. That press conference would have been a curse. This is a blessing.

I would like the media people to spread the news to the farthest corner of the world, because I have my sannyasins around the world, almost more than one million. And these seven people have gone to Europe, and they can do harm to other sannyasins, other communes. They are expert in lying. So please let the message go throughout the world that a group of criminals has reached in Switzerland. Sheela and Puja are the leaders of the group, and they should be avoided more than AIDS!

Now you can ask any question if you have.

INTERVIEW WITH MARK HENDRICKS, KOIN-TV, CHANNEL 6, PORTLAND (CBS AFFILIATED)

QUESTION: YOU SAID THE COMMUNE IS FIFTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS IN DEBT, THAT WAS YOUR FIGURE ? IS THAT THE RESULT OF NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THESE PEOPLE OR CRIMINAL WRONGDOING ON THE PART OF THE PEOPLE YOU MENTION ?

ANSWER: It seems because of these people, because they kept the whole commune in ignorance, what they have done with that money seems to be mysterious. We will be searching for it. Because Sheela has done that kind of thing before, too. While I was in India she managed three hundred million dollars through her brother, Bipin, to swallow it, but in such a way that the whole blame went on Bipin. And Bipin was in America, and we could not

do anything about it. And, very strangely, while she was... He had never been here, but the day she left here he was here. Before she left, for two days he was here, perhaps making arrangements. In fact, purchasing this land Bipin was also the part. The owner was the friend of Bipin. Nobody was purchasing this land. Highest price that was offered was three and a half million. And Bipin managed through Sheela to purchase in seven million. Now I suspect that they both must have got at least two million out of seven million. And just now, today I have been informed that Sheela has a Swiss bank account, and they must have been sending money because how they are going to survive there, taking all these people to Switzerland ?

And, by the way, it reminds me one thing more. Sheela was married to one American sannyasin, Jayananda. But because she wanted to escape from here before all these things explode, either from internal sources or from government agencies, if all these things are exposed, then she had to make some place where to go. So she married one Swiss sannyasin. Just one month before, she went to Mexico. She never told me that she is going to marry. And this was bigamy, she was already married to Jayananda and she married a Swiss sannyasin just to get a Swiss residence. Only later on, legal people suggested her, that this is bigamy, and you have committed a crime. So she rushed Nepal getting a divorce predated. In poor countries you can get, just a little bribe. So she got a divorce in Nepal which is false. She has committed bigamy. Poor Jayananda was not yet, because he is in Australia. She sent him to Australia so that he does not create any trouble and does not make any fuss.

Q: DOES A FIFTY-FIVE-MILLION-DOLLAR DEFICIT ENDANGER THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNE ?

A: No Money is not such a big thing. We have put more than two hundred millions already in developing it. If we can manage for two hundred million, fifty-five million is just nothing.

INTERVIEW WITH SCOTT MILLER, KGW-TV, CHANNEL 8, PORTLAND (NBC AFFILIATED)
Q: SINCE YOU BEGAN SPEAKING AGAIN, IN THE PAST YOU HAVE DEFENDED SHEELA FAIRLY VEHEMENTLY. HOW DID SHE GET YOU TO GO ALONG WITH ALL THIS ? YOU'VE SEEMED VERY WELL VERSED ON THE ISSUES, ALL THE WAY THROUGH, VERY MUCH IN COMMAND OF THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT YOUR COMMUNITY. DID YOU REALLY NOT KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON IN ANTELOPE, REALLY NOT KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH THE FINANCES ?

A: No. When I was silent I was completely unaware.

Q: SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SPEAKING AGAIN, THOUGH, THERE'S BEEN ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS WHERE YOU HAVE SUPPORTED SHEELA FROM TIME TO TIME.

A: Yeah, because all these things came just to my knowledge yesterday. And today immediately I have called you here. We have not wasted a single minute to inform.

Q: DO YOU FEEL LIKE PERHAPS YOU'RE A PRISONER HERE ?

A: No, I am not prisoner here.

Q: IN THE PAST, I'M REFERRING TO.

A: No, not even in the past. I was just in isolation. If I was a prisoner, then they would not have escaped. I would have escaped.

INTERVIEW WITH ROBERTA ULRICH, THE OREGONIAN, PORTLAND
Q: YOU HAVE SORT OF HELD OUT AN OLIVE BRANCH TO THE PEOPLE OF OREGON AND THE PEOPLE OF ANTELOPE. WILL THIS INCLUDE ANY ACTION TO PERHAPS SETTLE SOME OF THE NUMEROUS LAWSUITS AMICABLY ?

A: It can be. In fact, it can settle everything. Why a few ? Because the whole problem was Antelope. And we are ready to leave it, because we don't want... There is no reason. Unnecessary trouble for us. People should manage their own work. Why we should manage their work?

Q: WOULD YOU PERHAPS CONSIDER DROPPING SUCH AS THE SUIT AGAINST ALL OF THE STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AS PART OF YOUR OLIVE BRANCH ?

A: But we have not put any lawsuit against anybody. They have started lawsuits.

Q: YOU HAVE ONE AGAINST GOVERNOR ATIYEH AND DAVE FROHNMEYER AND A LONG LIST OF...

A: That is because they have put so many lawsuits against us. If they withdraw their lawsuits, I promise we will withdraw ours.

INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD WAGNER, CBS NETWORK
Q: I THOUGHT I HEARD YOU TALK OF POISON, AND SWISS BANK ACCOUNTS, AND FIFTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS. ARE WE TALKING ABOUT ATTEMPTED MURDER AND THEFT, OR WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT ?

A: Certainly. You have not been listening well. A journalist is not supposed to have deaf ears.

Q: I AGREE COMPLETELY.

A: Okay, you can ask again.

Q: SPECIFICALLY, THE GROUP YOU REFER TO AS THE FASCIST GANG, OF WHAT DO YOU ACCUSE THEM OF DOING ?

A: They have attempted to murder people in the commune, they have attempted to murder people in Dallas. They have attempted bugging people's houses, my own house, which is against democratic values and against human freedom. They have been taping every phone. If Nixon was a criminal, then these people belong to the same category.

Q: HAVE THEY STOLEN MONEY FROM THE COMMUNE ?

A: That has to be discovered, because the person who was managing the money has also escaped with them. So we will have to work out and find ways how...

Q: DO YOU HAVE THE MEANS TO DISCOVER IF THE MONEY WAS STOLEN ?

A: Yes. We have every means, because we have all kinds of people here: economists, financial advisors, bookkeepers. We have all kinds of best minds. Just they have to put... We never thought about it, so nobody took care of those books. They have to be taken care of.

Q: DO YOU INTEND TO PURSUE THESE PEOPLE IN THE COURTS OF OREGON ?

A: Certainly. First, we will find out within the commune everything, and we are making it public so the whole public knows. And we will find out everything. Police we have already reported. We are reporting the Interpol, that these people should be watched. And meanwhile we are investigating everything, and soon we will be going to the court. Because it is not a question of betraying us, it is a question of betraying human values. Otherwise we don't care about money. Fifty-five million, if they have taken, that is nothing to be worried. That is not much of a problem. We would not have called you here. But bugging houses, telephones being taped, we cannot tolerate. And attempting murder... So we will sue them. We will pursue them wherever they are. Now that is going to be our pursuit of happiness.

INTERVIEW WITH BRIAN ECKER, ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND

Q: WE'VE BEEN TOLD THAT SHEELA DELIVERED A LETTER TO YOU ON SATURDAY BEFORE SHE LEFT THE COMMUNE. IF THAT'S TRUE, CAN YOU DIVULGE TO US WHAT THE LETTER SAID ?

A: In the letter she did not say that she is going to leave the commune. She simply said that she feels no more excitement coming here, she feels more excitement in Europe. But

there was no indication of her leaving. In fact, there was no need to come back, but she had come here to clear few things. Just today we found in Jesus House they had a special room where they were keeping white mice and injecting them with doses of poison, just to be clear that how much dose is enough not to kill immediately, but in the long run. Otherwise there was no need. She was not here, she had just come two days, three days before. There was no need to come at all. And now we have to look into the books, they may have taken parts of the books or even the whole books may have disappeared. I have been informed today that she has taken so many tapes, which may be significant. Perhaps they are the tapes that they were recording of telephones and bugging. So her coming was not coming, it was just to clear things so nothing is to be found. And she was to collect the whole gang, because if even a single person is left behind the person may betray. So she were talking to those people for these three days, persuading them to leave: "It is dangerous now to be here." And her most significant statement to these people was that, "Osho is not interested in the commune or commune's welfare. His interest is only in diamond watches, Rolls Royces." It is was really a surprise to me, because Rolls Royces don't belong to me. Neither the diamond watches belong to me. The watches that belong to me... this watch you can see, this is not a diamond watch. These are just authentic stones. And this is not a Piaget. From Piaget it is half million dollars. It is not even hundred dollars ! Our own sannyasins have made. I am using watches made by my own sannyasins. They can deceive you, but... And the Rolls Royces have its own trust, they don't belong to me.

But hearing this, that she was saying this, I am going to talk to the trustees of the Rolls Royces, that, "Make a pool of all the Rolls Royces, because I don't need any, so all the sannyasins can use them." I have many dozens of diamond watches -- the same. I am going to ask the Jewelry Trust that, "Make all the watches available to sannyasins." For me there is no point. Only for one hour while I am speaking in the morning or in a press conference I need a watch. That too is unnecessary, because my bladder functions so perfectly that I know when I have to finish.

Q: DO YOU BELIEVE THE SANNYASINS WHO HAVE LEFT THE COMMUNE WERE INVOLVED AT ALL WITH THE SALMONELLA OUTBREAK IN THE DALLES LAST YEAR ?

A: I just don't blame anybody. They have simply showed the animal nature that is behind in each of us. Just it needs power to surface. So I am not angry with them. I am not against them. But they have showed to all the sannyasins that if you don't become fully aware, these are the poisons that everybody is carrying within. Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. And now we are going to take every measure that power is decentralized, many more people have the power, and people in power have to be changed more often so nobody takes it for granted that it is his position. It is nobody's position. And every person who is in power has to understand that he is the servant of the commune, not the master.

Q: I'M NOT SURE IF YOU UNDERSTOOD MY QUESTION. THERE WAS AN OUTBREAK OF SALMONELLA LAST YEAR IN THE DALLES. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THESE SANNYASINS HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THAT ?

A: Yes.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY EVIDENCE OF THAT ?

A: Evidence police will have to find, but my sannyasins have much information about it.

INTERVIEW WITH DON LATTIN, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

Q: OSHO, LAST SUMMER SHEELA MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT DURING THE FESTIVAL WHERE SHE SAID YOU HAD DECLARED A LONG LIST OF SANNYASINS ENLIGHTENED, AND HAD SET UP THREE COMMITTEES TO CONTINUE RAJNEESHISM AFTER YOU LEAVE YOUR BODY. MY QUESTION IS, A) DID YOU IN FACT TELL HER THAT, AND B) ARE ANY OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO YOU DID DECLARE ENLIGHTENED AMONG THIS FASCIST GANG.

A: This was just a joke. We enjoy everything, even we can make a joke of enlightenment.

Q: SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU DID TELL HER THAT, BUT YOU WERE JUST JOKING.

A: Yes. Not to her, I told even those people. And they were puzzled, and they were shocked, because they know they are not enlightened. And one of my oldest sannyasins said outside that, "Osho is a rascal. I am not enlightened and He has declared me enlightened." This I call clarity. It was nothing but once in a while the commune needs some entertainment.

Q: THE LAST TIME THERE WAS A CHANGE IN YOUR PERSONAL SECRETARY, THE PREVIOUS WOMAN, LAXMI, SORT OF DISAPPEARED, FROM PUBLIC VIEW AT LEAST. WHERE IS SHE AND DO YOU EXPECT HER TO COME BACK NOW...?

A: She is here! Laxmi? She is here, but she is such a small woman that you may think she has disappeared. Laxmi stand up. Where she is? Not feeling well... She is here.

INTERVIEW WITH PETE KING, LOS ANGELES TIMES
Q: DID YOU CONFRONT, OR TRY TO CONFRONT, SHEELA WITH ANY OF THIS BEFORE YOU WENT PUBLIC WITH US, ON ANY OF THESE ACCUSATIONS ?

A: She avoided to see me. She came here and to avoid seeing me there are very simple methods. You have just to say that you have cold. My doctors don't allow anybody having cold to come close to me, because I have an allergy and immediately I become sick. So when she came, immediately she said that she has cold. And this has been going on for many times. Yesterday she was suffering from cold, and this morning when she had some work she came, and there was no cold. Cold does not disappear so soon. It takes at least four days, seven days.

Q: SHE LEFT TODAY OR SHE LEFT SATURDAY ?

A: She left day before yesterday.

Q: WHAT SPECIFICALLY HAVE YOU TOLD THE POLICE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND DO YOU HAVE ANY FEAR OR CONCERN OR DESIRE TO BRING THEM IN HERE TO INVESTIGATE MAYBE SOME PEOPLE WHO WERE ACCOMPLICES IN ANY OF THESE ALLEGED THINGS ?

A: No. No. No fear, and we don't want any compensation.

Q: DO YOU THINK ALL THE BAD PEOPLE HAVE LEFT ?

A: Yes. At least the one bunch of fascists have left, and now there is not going to be another bunch because I am going to continue to speak for my whole life. And I will be here.

INTERVIEW WITH STEVE DAVIS, KGO-TV, SAN FRANCISCO (CHANNEL 7)
Q: ON THE MATTER OF THE AIDS CLINIC OR AIDS HOME IN THE ANTELOPE HOUSING PROJECT, YOU MENTIONED HERE THIS EVENING THAT YOU LEARNED THE DAY BEFORE THE NEWS CONFERENCE THAT THAT WAS WHAT WAS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE BIG NEWS CONFERENCE. YOU AND I SPOKE A WEEK OR TEN DAYS BEFORE THE NEWS CONFERENCE, AND YOU ALLUDED TO THAT PROJECT IN A TAPED INTERVIEW WITH ME, IN WHICH YOU CHARACTERIZED IT BY THE SAME PHRASE YOU USED TONIGHT, THAT BEING SOMETHING EXTREMELY DANGEROUS, AND SAID THAT YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THE STREET PEOPLE PROGRAM AGAIN BECAUSE YOU HAD DONE THAT, BUT THAT YOU WERE GOING TO DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD SHOCK AMERICA AND THAT WAS EVEN MORE DANGEROUS, AS YOU CHARACTERIZED IT.

A: I am doing it. This is more dangerous.

Q: AND YOU WEREN'T AT THAT TIME ALLUDING TO THE AIDS CLINIC IN ANY WAY ? THAT WAS NOT ON YOUR MIND ?

A: No. I was not alluding. I was alluding to this press conference.

Q: OTHERS -- MA ANAND PUJA, AND I UNDERSTAND SHE IS ONE OF THOSE WHO IS GONE NOW, AND SHEELA -- AT THAT TIME SAID THAT IT WAS INDEED THE AIDS PROJECT THAT..

A: That was her idea, which I stopped the moment I came to know. I was aware that the conference is going about AIDS. For that there was no problem. I was ready to talk about AIDS. But when I heard that it is not only AIDS but the opening of the AIDS home, then I freaked out.

Q: WOULD THAT CONVERSATION ABOUT AIDS TO WHICH YOU SAY YOU HAD AGREED IN THE NEWS CONFERENCE HAD BEEN SOMETHING YOU WOULD CONSIDER DANGEROUS, AS YOU REFERRED TO IT IN OUR NEWS CONFERENCE, OR IN OUR INTERVIEW ?

A: That will need another press conference. It is a big subject. This time you cover this. This is more dangerous. And if you are interested in AIDS, we can arrange another press conference. Or you can come alone, and have an interview on AIDS. There is no problem.

Q: NO, I'M...

A: But please don't change the subject.

Q: I DON'T BELIEVE I DID, SIR. THANK YOU.
INTERVIEW WITH BILL GRAVES, BEND BULLETIN
Q: OSHO, WILL YOU DEFINITELY BE PULLING OUT OF ANTELOPE ? AND WHAT'S TO BECOME OF ALL THAT HOUSING THERE, THAT'S THERE NOW ?

A: Just if they are ready to purchase all the properties that Foundation have there.

Q: SO THEY WOULD HAVE TO BUY BACK THE PROPERTY THAT...

A: Certainly, because we have buy it. We have purchased from them, we have paid for them.

Q: HOW ABOUT GIVING THEM BACK THE NAME OF THEIR TOWN?

A: No.

Q: YOU WILL NOT DO THAT?

A: Then they can give, just they have only eight houses and we have almost the whole Antelope. They have one-third, we have two-third. So that will be more reasonable, they should give it up to us and go into Oregon.

Q: WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT HOUSING NOW THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO USE IT FOR THE AIDS PROJECT?

A: Just my sannyasins I can call from all over America, and we will be using for my sannyasins.

Q: WHY DID SHEELA AND THESE OTHER SANNYASINS TRY TO POISON MIKE SULLIVAN, DO YOU KNOW?

A: I don't know, because I had never been interested in all these matters. Just even the name of Mike Sullivan I have heard today. I don't know anything.

INTERVIEW WITH GREY HOY, SEVEN NETWORK, AUSTRALIA
Q: OSHO, YOU DO KNOW SHEELA VERY WELL. WHERE DO YOU THINK SHE AND THE OTHERS WILL GO TO SETTLE?

A: Nobody knows anybody very well. We remain strangers even if we live together for our whole life. That's something unique in human beings, that there is no way to know the person in his totality. That is his dignity. You cannot penetrate to his privacy. So I don't claim to know Sheela very well. I was just acquainted, as I am acquainted with all my other sannyasins.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE SHE MIGHT GO TO SETTLE?

A: Perhaps Switzerland, because she has got married there, so the idea of getting married to a Swiss sannyasin certainly makes it clear she is going to settle there.

Q: YOU ADVISE ALL OF THESE PEOPLE TO BE SKEPTICAL. COULD I JUST ASK ONE QUESTION OF THEM, AND THAT IS: MANY OF YOU HAVE ALSO KNOWN SHEELA WELL FOR A LONG TIME. DID ANYONE HERE EXPRESS SCEPTICISM PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY AT THE OSHO'S ALLEGATIONS? AND I'D INVITE ANYONE TO ANSWER THAT.

A: If you want to ask my people, the best way will be: I can present your question to them. He is asking, "Do you agree with me?" Then raise both of your hands. Look well!

INTERVIEW WITH SWAMI ANAND VIDEHA, ITALY
Q: THROUGH A SITUATION LIKE THIS, THERE SEEM MANY POSSIBILITIES FOR LEARNING. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED?

A: I have nothing to learn. In fact, long ago I have unlearned everything. Since then I am just empty, a nothingness. This has given just something to be excited about, nothing to learn. I am enjoying it. And you have to forgive me, because I don't see movies, I have to create my own movies. Even though I am enlightened, a little entertainment is to be forgiven. Right?

INTERVIEW WITH LES ZAITZ, THE OREGONIAN, PORTLAND
Q: YOU SAID THIS EVENING THAT YOU'RE GOING TO STIR IN THESE PEOPLE AGAIN THE THOUGHT THAT THEY HAVE TO BE INDEPENDENT. YOU'VE LECTURED ALONG THAT VEIN FOR MANY YEARS. YET IN THE PAST THREE YEARS WE'VE SEEN THAT THEY'VE SURRENDERED THAT INDEPENDENCE TO "THE GANG." WHAT DOES THAT SUGGEST ABOUT YOUR TEACHINGS? HAVE THEY NOT LISTENED TO YOU, OR HAVE YOUR TEACHINGS FAILED?

A: No, my teachings cannot fail. It simply suggests that I have got a very trusting, innocent people around me. And I would like a person to be trusting, even if he is deceived, because to be deceived is not a big loss than to lose trust in humanity. I still trust Sheela and her gang. What they have done is actions, not their being. And my trust is unconditional. If they want to come back and be part of the commune, they will be welcome with the same respect and love.

Q: THE PEOPLE THAT YOU'VE ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER WOULD BE WELCOME WITH RESPECT AND LOVE?

A: Certainly. Even murderer has a human dignity, and they have only accused of attempted murder. Even a murderer should be respected as a human being.

INTERVIEW WITH TOM STEVENSON, THE DALLES CHRONICLE, THE DALLES
Q: OSHO, YOU SAID EARLIER THAT SHEELA AND HER GANG HAD WANTED TO POISON THE WATER SYSTEM OF THE DALLES, AM I RIGHT? YOU DID STATE THAT? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FACT, HOW FAR THEY WENT, AT THE FACT WHEN THEY WERE GOING TO DO THAT, OR DID YOU JUST FIND THAT OUT?

A: They do really go to the very end. But because of some purifying systems, they could not succeed. The poison could not reach to people. But they had poisoned the reservoir.

Q: YOU TALKED ABOUT THEM POISONING OR TRYING TO POISON OTHER PEOPLE. WASCO COUNTY JUDGE BILL HULSE WAS SICKENED AFTER A VISIT HERE.

A: Yes, that too I just heard today, that he felt also that he was poisoned here.

Q: BY SHEELA AND HER GANG?

A: It is possible. The same group can do that too.

INTERVIEW WITH MA MARY CATHERINE, THE RAJNEESH TIMES
Q: OSHO, THESE LAST TWO DAYS FOR THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE HAVE BEEN AN EMOTIONAL TIME. A NUMBER OF THEM HAVE EXPRESSED TO ME THE WISH TO ASK YOU: HOW IS IT THAT WE DIDN'T SAY WHAT WE SAW AT THE TIME THAT WE SAW IT?

A: It always happens. When Adolf Hitler was defeated, his generals, his ministers, many of his prominent people, expressed the same thing, that, "How we could not see it?" People are almost asleep. Unless something really shakes them and wakes them up, they don't see much. But we have seen in time. No harm has been done. Nobody has been murdered, and my people are immensely happy. They have been dancing on the streets, rejoicing, as if they have achieved freedom from a concentration camp. We have to keep it as open, as human, as possible, and we have to be alert that nothing like this happens. We are young, only four years old commune. There is every possibility to commit a mistake. Commit as many mistakes as possible, but don't commit the same mistake again.

Q: IN THAT REGARD, WHAT CAN WE WATCH OUT FOR IN OURSELVES TO BE CERTAIN THAT MISTAKE DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN?

A: Just watch one thing, that you are not dominating anybody and that you are not being dominated by anybody. You are a free individual, and you are as important as anybody in the commune. The professor is important, the plumber is as much important as the professor. It makes no difference what is your function. What you are doing is not the question. What you are, your being, is the question. So remember two things. Don't try to be in any power trip on anybody, and then you will be easily capable to see if somebody else is trying to be powerful over you. Avoid both. And that will give you your integrity and your individuality, and a crystallization that has immense beauty.

INTERVIEW WITH GERALD ERICKSON, THE DALLES WEEKLY REMINDER
Q: ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO THERE WAS A FIRE, APPARENTLY ARSON, AT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN THE DALLES. DO YOU KNOW IF SHEELA AND HER GANG ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT?

A: Thank you for reminding me of it, because the same group was involved in that.

Q: YOU'VE LAID OUT AN OLIVE BRANCH TONIGHT, AND, AS YOU KNOW, SHEELA WAS VERY MUCH DISLIKED BY THE PEOPLE OF WASCO COUNTY AND THE PEOPLE OF OREGON. DO YOU THINK THAT WITH THE OLIVE BRANCH THAT

YOU'VE LAID OUT TONIGHT, AND WITH SHEELA BEING GONE, THAT THE PEOPLE OF OREGON AND OF WASCO COUNTY IN PARTICULAR WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THAT?

A: That is up to them, but we are positive.

INTERVIEW WITH TED VIRAMONTE, MADRAS PIONEER, MADRAS
Q: OSHO, FEELINGS RUN STRONG IN ANTELOPE FOR THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN THERE FOR AN AWFUL LONG TIME. THEY MAY LOOK UPON YOUR OFFER WITH DISTRUST. DO YOU FEEL THAT THE OFFER OF VACATING THE HOUSES THERE IS ENOUGH, OR WILL YOU SEND EMISSARIES OUT THERE TO TALK TO THEM?

A: No, just for the time being the media is enough. And if it is necessary, I will send emissaries too. And wherever you feel anybody is ready to listen, just contact Isabel, and she will arrange some professor from the university, some psychologist, some therapist. But, by the way, I again love your moustache.

INTERVIEW WITH JACKIE JOHNSON, K-BEND RADIO, BEND
Q: OSHO, WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER TO YOUR ENEMIES WHO WILL SAY THAT SHEELA IS BEING USED AS A SCAPEGOAT BECAUSE SHE'S NOT HERE TO DEFEND HERSELF?

A: You can inform Sheela and call her, and she can defend herself. She was not even brave enough to face me. She was here for three days, and she will not come to see me. Just facing me would have been enough. You can inform Sheela. I am available. It may be Sheela, it may be Governor Atiyeh, it may be Ronald Reagan -- anybody. I am ready to face, because whatever I am saying is truth. So there is no fear for me. She was afraid, so she escaped, and escaped in a very cowardly way. And all the seven people she has escaped with, none of them came to see me. They just wrote a small letter, the same kind, it seems dictated by Sheela. All the letters with the same matter, that, "Beloved Osho, we love you. We are very grateful to you, and we are leaving." Just great letters. And these people have some guts to call me yet "Beloved Osho" and "We love you, and we are grateful, and we are leaving." And they give no reason why they are leaving. And all the letters are the same. You can inform. You can get the address of Sheela, her husband particularly we have. You inform, they can come and face me. I don't think she will come unless Interpol brings her here. But sooner or later she will have to face me.

Q: AT ANOTHER INTERVIEW THAT I WAS PRESENT AT, YOU STATED THAT YOU WERE A MAN WHO LOVES CONTROVERSY. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR CONTROVERSY NOW?

A: And what am I doing? I have been controversial with outside people, now I am being

controversial with my own people. I will be controversial, whatsoever happens, whoever the target. But I am going to be controversial.

INTERVIEW WITH MA VIREN, ESPRESSO MAGAZINE, PANORAMA MAGAZINE AND EUROPEO, ITALY
Q: OSHO, I COME FROM ITALY....

A: Great!

Q: ... AND ITALY IS A COUNTRY KNOWN BECAUSE OF THE MAFIA. WHAT I SEE HERE IS THAT A DEEP CLEANING IS HAPPENING. HOW CAN BE THIS RELATE TO THE BIRTH OF THE NEW MAN?

A: The Mafia was here. Now it is in Switzerland. And there is more possibility for the New Man to happen now. Otherwise the Mafia will kill the New Man anywhere. It is against the vested interests of any kind of Mafia. We are feeling really unburdened. Strangely, even I am feeling clean and fresh, just out of my shower. This small group was something heavy and dirty, and they must have been creating a very dirty vibe. It is good that they are gone. In fact, I am making this statement so that they never think to come back again.

Q: AND WHAT WILL BE THE FUTURE IN THE COMMUNE? YOU WERE SPEAKING TWO DAYS AGO ABOUT CALLING INTELLIGENT PEOPLE HERE NOW THAT EVERYTHING IS BEING RID FROM THE MEDIOCRITY. SO WHAT THESE INTELLIGENT PEOPLE WILL DO? WHEN WHAT YOU SEE...?

A: You have to be worried about retarded people, that what they will do in the future, because they are dependent on somebody. These people are not dependent on me. I hate anybody to be dependent on me, just as I am not dependent on anybody. I have even dropped god because that was a trouble. If there is a god, you have to be dependent. So I don't have any god, and man is the supreme reality. You need not be dependent on anybody. And now people have seen that in these three and a half years depending on a certain group, and they got deceived because that group was telling to them, "These are from Osho, these instructions are from Osho." And these people had no way to find out whether these instructions are from me or not. Now, I am available to everybody.

INTERVIEW WITH SUSAN BARR, Q104, THE DALLES
Q: OSHO, THERE ARE LOTS OF LAWSUITS INVOLVING YOUR COMMUNE AND THE STATE OF OREGON AND THE COUNTY OF WASCO, AND SINCE THESE MAY HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY SOME OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS GANG, AND MAY BE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED, ARE YOU GOING TO BACK OFF ON THE LAWSUITS THAT ARE BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE STATE AND YOUR COMMUNE?

A: Just wait a little. All those lawsuits will disappear.

Q: BY YOUR ACTION?

A: Certainly.

Q: ANOTHER QUESTION. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO BETRAY YOU ARE GONE FROM THIS COMMUNE?

A: No. Nobody can betray me, because I never expect anybody not to betray me. They did what they could. It is not betraying me. That was their potential that came up. Because they had power, so they could use their potential. It must have been there, dormant, for their whole life. They have not betrayed me.

Q: HAVE THEY BETRAYED ANYONE HERE?

A: No. They have just betrayed themselves.

INTERVIEW WITH BOB SMITH, KPRB RADIO, REDMOND
Q: OSHO, IN THE PAST YOU, AT LEAST ON ONE OCCASION, REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE OF OREGON AS BEING STUPID. DO YOU STILL KNOW OF NO PEOPLE AS STUPID AS THOSE IN OREGON?

A: In fact, I don't know any Oregonians. I know only about the governor, Atiyeh, and the attorney general. Both are stupids, both are idiots. I can't help, I have to say the truth. But if you think they are representatives of the whole Oregon, then it is your viewpoint. I don't think they are the representatives of the whole Oregon. There must be many intelligent people in Oregon.

Q: IS IT NECESSARY FOR THE PEOPLE OF RAJNEESHPURAM AND ANY OTHER GROUP, OR THE PEOPLE AS A WHOLE OF THE STATE OF OREGON, TO HAVE ANYTHING TO OFFER TO ANOTHER AS A LARGER SOCIAL GROUP. DO WE NEED IN ANY WAY TO DEPEND UPON ONE ANOTHER FOR ANYTHING, OR DO WE STAND AS SEPARATE ENTITIES?

A: Everybody depends. In that sense nobody is absolutely independent. Life is an interdependence. If you don't breathe for few moments, you will be finished. That means you are dependent on the air. If you don't drink water, within a few days you will be gone. You are dependent on the water. We are all interdependent. And there is nothing wrong in it. It is not dependence. Interdependence simply means we are an organic whole, that we are somehow interlinked, not only with human beings, but with trees, with birds, with animals, with earth, with sky, with the sun. We are connected with the whole universe. Every single

individual is connected multi-dimensionally, otherwise he cannot exist for a single moment. Seeing this organic unity, I am against divisions of religion, divisions of races, divisions of nations, divisions of societies. Those all divisions are wrong. Humanity -- at least humanity should be one. Then perhaps we can spread that unity towards animals and trees and clouds, and hope one day that man has become universal. But that will be total interdependence.

Q: IF SHEELA WERE TO COME BACK TO RAJNEESHPURAM, WHAT KIND OF GREETING COULD SHE EXPECT?

A: She will be welcome. She can come only if she goes through a transformation and understanding. She can come only if she comes and confesses what she has done. We will welcome her, because her past cannot hold her future. Her past is past, and gone. Her future is still open and free and fresh. And that's my attitude about everybody. I am against death penalty for this reason, because you don't give the person another chance, you finish his future. The murder was his past, but he has a future too. Give him a chance. Teach him how to live. There must be something psychologically wrong with the person, that he had to murder. So if Sheela comes here, we will welcome her. And we have all kinds of therapies. We will clean her completely, deprogram her, and make her a simple human being.

INTERVIEW WITH ALEX KING, KACI RADIO, THE DALLES
Q: OSHO, WAS THERE AN EFFORT TO SUBVERT THE STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTION LAWS WHILE SHEELA WAS RUNNING THE SHOW?

A: I was in silence in those days, but just now, coming out of silence, I came to know about it, that it was suspected that she had some idea of bringing these people to vote. It is possible. She has a political mind. But I cannot be certain about it. But it is possible. Otherwise I don't think she will waste money on three thousand street people unnecessarily, knowing me perfectly, that I am against poverty, and I don't want my commune to become poor in any way. I want my commune to be the most luxurious place in the world.

Q: CAN WE BE ASSURED THAT SHEELA'S TERRORISM HAS ENDED IN WASCO COUNTY?

A: It's certainly ended. There is no possibility... Sheela gone, we don't have any other politicians. Even the mayor or Rajneeshpuram has gone with the gang. All those who had any political minds, they all have escaped. Now it is going to be difficult, whom to choose the mayor. Nobody wants. That's why everybody has been declared the president of the commune and president of the foundation. Just the mayor has not been declared, because nobody wants.

ISABEL: OSHO, THERE IS ONE LAST QUESTION, FROM A JOURNALIST, FRED BREUNING FROM NEWSDAY IN NEW YORK. HE INTERVIEWED YOU RECENTLY AND COULDN'T COME IN TIME. HE ASKS, "OSHO, WERE YOU NOT AWARE THAT THIS

KIND OF ELITISM WAS TAKING PLACE IN YOUR NAME, AND WHY DIDN'T YOU ACT SOONER?"

A: No, I was not aware. People have a misunderstanding about enlightenment. They think to be enlightened means to be aware of everything in the world -- past, present, future. I am not even aware what is in my bathroom, what is going on in my bedroom. If they could bug my bedroom and I was not aware... I was not aware at all what was going on. To me, enlightenment simply means I am aware of myself. And that's enough, more than that is unnecessary. Okay?

Press Conference

Chapter #2
Chapter title: None

17 September 1985 om in Rajneeshmandir

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INTERVIEW WITH DON LATIN, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, CALIFORNIA; AND INTERVIEW WITH PETE KING, LOS ANGELES TIMES, CALIFORNIA
INTERVIEW WITH DON LATIN, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, CALIFORNIA

QUESTION: OSHO, THIS MORNING YOU SAID SHEELA'S GROUP INJECTED ONE OF THE SHARE-A-HOME PEOPLE WITH A DRUG AND HE DIED OF AN OVERDOSE. WERE YOU REFERRING TO THE DEATH OF WILLIAM ALLEN WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND LAST OCTOBER BEHIND A TAVERN NEAR MOUNT HOOD OR ANOTHER CASE OR COULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT THE DETAILS WERE OF THAT?

ANSWER: Details I don't know. Perhaps that is the man. Just one sannyasin has informed that one of the participants in share-home program was overdosed. Sheela and her company was giving drugs to all the participants to keep them silent, calm down, almost unconscious, and this was an accident. So the man died and they threw the body outside Rancho Rajneesh. Perhaps that is the man that you are referring, but details you should inquire Isabel.

Q: OKAY. DID YOU SAY THEY WERE INJECTING THE SHARE-A-HOME PEOPLE WITH DRUGS OR WERE THEY PUTTING IT IN THEIR FOOD OR BEVERAGES OR JUST HOW WERE THEY...?

A: Because I was silent and I had no idea what they were doing -- whether they were inject... giving them injections or giving them orally, you can inquire it from our medical corporation who will be more capable to give you the details. But certainly they were giving them drugs; it does not matter whether you give it orally or you inject it.

INTERVIEW WITH PETE KING, LOS ANGELES TIMES, CALIFORNIA
Q: THERE'S CONFUSION AMONG THE PRESS AND AMONG YOUR PRESS OFFICE AND AMONG THE FINANCIAL PEOPLE THAT WE'VE TALKED TO TODAY OVER EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU WERE REFERRING TO ALLEGATIONS OF THEFT THAT HAD COME TO YOU, AND ALSO STATEMENTS ABOUT A POTENTIAL DEBT OF FIFTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS. CAN YOU PRECISELY LAY OUT WHAT THOSE TWO THINGS ARE ABOUT?

A: I cannot say anything precisely. Because I have not been part for three-and-a-half-years, and I was not knowing what is going on. Just within these two days, as Sheela left -- perhaps afraid that now it is time, things will explode. She had done so many crimes, she must be aware that you cannot go on doing; one day, sooner or later... So she departed with all the group of criminals who had committed things against humanity and against the values of love, life, compassion.

In these two days, hundreds of sannyasins have opened their mouth. The whole day, the office is receiving informations that "We were silent -- we knew it -- but we were silent because we were afraid that if other people can be killed, we can be killed also, so it is better to keep silent.

One sannyasin from Germany phoned -- he was here and he was our best pilot -- and suddenly he was sent to Germany, to a commune where they don't have any aerodrome, no airplane, he is not needed there. He phoned from there as he heard that Sheela has left. He said, "I had been sent as a punishment, because I was told to take one of the airplanes, with as much bombs in it as possible and crash it on the Wasco County office and jump in time in a parachute -- so save yourself."

Because I refused, I was simply told that you get on the plane and leave the country immediately, because they suspected I may say it to somebody. But now is the time that I should say it. We have called him that "You come immediately."

And as his message was received, just another sannyasin came, that from Sheela's house they have found materials from which bombs are made. Now that material is there and they have found other mechanisms which are all illegal. And there was no need for them to be here, and nobody was aware that they are here.

So just it will take a week for everybody to gather courage to say things which they have not been saying, and there is going to be a far bigger Watergate soon.

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK GAVE SHEELA THE POWER TO MAKE THESE PEOPLE SO AFRAID THAT THEY WOULD NOT COME FORWARD, WITH WHAT SOUNDS LIKE VERY SCANDALOUS BEHAVIOR, SHOULD NO ONE HAVE BEEN KILLED BY HER. THE GUNS WERE HELD BY THE POLICE FORCE. THE POLICE OR THE PEACE CHIEF SAYS THAT SHE WAS NOT AN ACCOMPLICE TO ANY OF THIS. SO WHAT GAVE HER ANY POWER TO HAVE SUCH A REIGN OF TERROR?

A: They had tried to poison three people.

Q: BUT NOBODY KNEW THAT.

A: Just now things have become more and more clear. First, they poisoned the sannyasin who takes care of me. Sheela never wanted anybody to be close to me in any way. She never wanted anybody even to talk to me, so that I don't know what is going on.

Three persons she was trying to kill. The people before whom she discussed the plan are here. One was my physician, one was my dentist, one was my caretaker.

First, my caretaker was given poison while she was visiting Sheela's house and took a cup of tea -- but nobody suspected. We thought some illness has happened. She was immediately taken to the hospital. She remained few days in the hospital, got well, and nobody even thought, nobody could even conceive that.

Then my physician one day, was taking coffee at Sheela's house and he came... but because he is a physician, with the best qualifications from England, he could feel that there was some poison in the coffee. But everybody laughed at the idea that "You must be mad! Who will put poison in your coffee and for what?"

He remained sick for few days and while he was sick, he was here in the nursing home and Sheela's accomplice in all these crimes was Puja, who was a trained nurse and knew everything about medicine, drugs, poisons. She injected him again with a poison. Since then he has been feeling weak, for no reason at all.

And third time, just in the last celebration -- here in a meeting -- a woman who was the third in Sheela's group, Shanti B., she injected him while he was sitting in the meeting. And he immediately thought that something has been pushed. He took over his robe and called people to see: there was blood and something has been injected.

He was taken to the hospital, but he refused to go to this hospital, because now he was afraid. If these people can do it in a public meeting where fifteen to seventeen thousand people were present, what they can do in the nursery? And Puja was a dominant figure in the medical corporation.

So he insisted to go to Bend. He was taken to Bend. His wife, Hasya, was with him there. The doctor said, "There is no disease. We can only assume perhaps he has been poisoned. But there are poisons which are not detectable."

And the doctor also said, "The same thing had happened to Mike Sullivan, the attorney of Jefferson County, one year before -- exactly the same thing: he suddenly fell sick, suddenly felt white and weak, as if dying, and no disease and no symptom of any poison.

Today, one sannyasin has come on his own and he said, "I am an eye witness. In front of me, Shanti B. has injected Devaraj, but I was keeping silent: if they can kill Osho's physician so easily -- I am a poor sannyasin -- they can kill me any time."

So what was keeping people silent was that I was not available. Whatever they wanted to say, there was nobody to listen. Sheela was all-powerful. She has placed her people on every power post. She had thrown out all the sannyasins who had some independent mind, who were more intelligent than her, and she has put dummies who were just puppets, who will do whatever she will say. And to me, she will bring only news, what she wanted to bring. And from me, the instructions that I gave, only those will reach to the people that she wanted to reach to them. It was very simple, because I was silent.

The moment I started speaking, it became impossible; now I am available to people. They can say to me whatsoever they want to say and they can ask any question they want to ask. She never wanted me to start speaking. I was surprised, because the whole commune wanted me to speak -- except Sheela. But when I started speaking, then I understood what was the problem. She became sad: the whole commune because ecstatic, that for three and half years,

waiting, they are again able to communicate with me. But she became sad and she started going away for longer periods, for small excuses.

Finally, it became clear that because her face from the television was disappearing, her voice from the radio was disappearing, her statements from the newspaper were disappearing. In these three and half years she has become a world famous celebrity. The ego has become too big and now it was hard for her -- I can understand -- just to drop that ego and be again an ordinary sannyasin as she was before. This was the trouble.

And then people started bringing news to me and she became afraid that all these things that she has done -- without my knowledge... She escaped, with the whole group, suddenly. She did not even came to see to me.

For three days she has been here. In fact, there was no need to come, if she was going to go back. There was no need to come. She came back just to put things -- files and everything away or burn or destroy or take away. In three days she did that work, and once it was finished, she without saying that she is going today... she went on saying that she will be staying few days more. Suddenly one day, four o'clock, she left. And that is the time I go for a ride towards the forest in the Ranch, so she knew that I will be far away -- this is the best time to escape from here.

After her going, so many things have come to knowledge. Just today somebody informed that Sheela and Puja had herbs, poisonous herbs, to put in the food of these three people. And because the woman who was doing it was afraid to do it, and because Devaraj was afraid -- after these two poisonings -- they have started eating outside. They started arranging food from outside, so they could not succeed to poison their food. That woman has also escaped. Now other people from the restaurant have informed that that woman was doing something and putting some herbs in their food, but they never turned up. So they were... they killed one person certainly.

There are sannyasins who informed that they were the people who burned one of the offices of Wasco county, because there were many papers concerning Rajneeshpuram and their activities, that they were the people who had poisoned the tea of one of the judges of Wasco county who was visiting here. But just within two days, all this information has surfaced. Much more is bound to come up -- what else they were doing, what else they have done, what else they were planning.

For example, I am against politics or any kind of political atmosphere. These sannyasins here are not for politics or to gain power. These people are here to meditate, to be silent, to be themselves, to experience what this life is all about. They have no interest in power. But she was not interested in meditation. And the group that she has collected, also was not interested in meditation.

Most of his group has never been to India, into my ashram, to learn meditation. She had a center here, in America, and she had her people running the center. When I came here, those people, certainly, were my hosts and because I remained here, my health improved, those people and Sheela became more and more powerful.

They tried to create hostility. They unnecessarily took over Antelope -- there was no need. We have such a big land that there is no need to take Antelope, but just ego, power.

I would like the people of Antelope to take their houses back, just as they have sold them to the foundation, purchase them back. And I will ask my sannyasins to come back to the commune. They are forcibly living there. And Antelope should be Antelope -- there is no need for it to change its name. And it should be in the hands of the people of Antelope.

I am not for any hostility, antagonism, with anybody. That's why this time I have advised

my people that choose most of the officers who are American, so that other Americans can feel at home with them and they can feel at home with them.

We can enrich Oregon immensely. We can make this place -- in four years we have already made it an oasis, it was just a desert when we came, not... nothing to see except barren hills, not a single bird, not a single animal, and only one dilapidated house -- and we have changed it into an oasis. These people have worked tremendously hard and lovingly.

We can make it an... tremendously luscious holiday resort, one of the best tourist spots in the world. Anyway, more people are coming here every year than in any other place. Seventeen to twenty thousand people every festival, and all the year round hundreds and thousands of people are coming and going. If we can make more arrangements -- and we feel that Sheela and her group gone -- the wall between us and the Oregonian government and the federal government has disappeared. There is no reason for any conflict. We are not against any law, we are not against the constitution. In fact, I respect the American constitution as one of the best in the whole world. It is one of the hopes of humanity.

And we are ready to go according to the law, according to the constitution, and we hope that Americans should show, in reality, what they have written in their constitution: respect for individuality, respect for freedom, respect for religion, respect for different religions, no discrimination -- a little help from their side. And we don't want them to be unlawfully helpful to us; just don't be unlawfully hindrance. A lawful little help, and we are enough intelligent -- we can make this place something beautiful: clean, livable.

This is for you, the media, to give the message to the whole nation that we are friends, not enemies. In fact, perhaps in the whole of America, there is nobody who is more against communism, fascism, than me, because I believe in individual property, I believe that the person who is capable of creating wealth is a genius in the same category as a great painter or a poet or a scientist. Everybody is not Henry Ford, neither everybody is Picasso. The man who can create wealth should be respected.

And now that science has made technology available, so much wealth can be created that it is sheer stupidity what is happening in Soviet Union: they have simply distributed poverty. It is a poor country. I have my sannyasins there. But they have distributed poverty. Everybody is equally poor, so nobody feels that he is poor -- there is no comparison to feel. I also want everybody to be rich -- so rich that nobody feels poor, because nobody is poor.

In Russia, a certain illusion is being created. Wealth can be created so much that just as you don't hoard air, you need not hoard wealth. I am against equality, because it is psychologically impossible. Every individual is unique and his individuality should be respected, and his uniqueness should be respected.

Everybody should be given equal opportunity to grow his uniqueness. In other words, everybody should be given equal opportunity to be unequal. But equality should not be forced on people; that is the greatest crime one can commit.

So please let America know that we are in absolute agreement with a higher quality of capitalism than you have. Your capitalism still allows poverty. Thirty million people are still poor and starving and you are still going on piling up nuclear weapons. You don't care about those people.

The same energy can create so much wealth, that from America all religions will immediately disappear, because paradise will be herenow. Then who cares about a paradise after death? And that is my, one of the basic approaches, that paradise is the poor man's projection, that father is the helpless man's projection -- and all these projections have to disappear. And man has to be centered, integrated, completely satisfied with the here and

now... and this very moment is paradise!

I can send my people, who are trained for years in meditation, to every university campus to teach exactly what meditation is: the simplest method which can be followed even by a small child who can understand language, which can be followed by the oldest man who is just on the dying, last phase of his life, perhaps only for few minutes more. But in those few minutes, he can know something that can make him experience the deathless.

Ronald Reagan was wrong to ask for prayer to be introduced, because prayer is bound to be part of some religion. And prayer is basically based in the belief of god, which is the ultimate lie: there is no god. And there is no argument that has been able to prove.

Out of nine judges of the Supreme Court, eight rejected -- and this is what I respect in America: that even a president cannot pressurize fairness and justice. And one judge, who was not in agreement, made a really beautiful comment and he used the word meditation. He said, "It will be better if meditation is introduced," because meditation has nothing to do with any religion; it is a scientific method. An atheist can do it, because it needs no belief system, no prerequisite condition to be fulfilled.

Prayer is ugly, because it has to be Christian or Hindu or Mohammedan. Prayer cannot be pure. It is polluted. Meditation is neither Hindu nor Christian nor Jew, it is simply a science of going inwards.

I would like the Supreme Court to consider again and change the word prayer by meditation. And if they don't know what meditation is, then I am willing to send trained meditators to every institution of education to teach -- it is such a simple thing.

In the East we have been practicing one-hundred-twelve-methods for almost ten-thousand-years and out of one-hundred-twelve-methods, I have choosen one which is the simplest, which can be done by anybody and everybody.

So now that Sheela and her fascist group is gone, there is no question of any antagonism -- they were creating unnecessary hostility. We withdraw all hostility that they created and we are ready to welcome everyone who wants to visit our place or wants us to visit their place. I can come with my whole circus!

Okay.

Press Conference

Chapter #3
Chapter title: None

18 September 1985 om in Rajneeshmandir

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INTERVIEWS WITH SUGERMAN, FROM KCBS RADIO; BILL CROWN FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND; BILL BAXTER, NBC NETWORK NEWS; DIRK MADISON, "PEOPLE" MAGAZINE; RICHARD DRAPER, KOIN TV FROM PORTLAND; MIKE HOUSICAL, THE GLOBE, USA; THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA; AND THE STAR, LONDON, UK; ROGER WORTHINGTON, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS; WALDEN KIRSCH, KGW TV, PORTLAND; SWAMI VIDEHA, PANORAMA AND EXPRESSO, ITALY
INTERVIEW WITH SUGERMAN, FROM KCBS RADIO

QUESTION: I'D APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD, A SHORT ANSWER TO THE QUESTION... YOU'VE INDICATED THAT SHEELA WOULD BE WELCOME BACK IF SHE DECIDED TO COME BACK, ALTHOUGH YOU'VE ALSO ACCUSED HER OF SOME RATHER SERIOUS CRIMES, INCLUDING THOSE AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBORS HERE. AND I WAS WONDERING IF SHE CAME BACK AND WAS CONVICTED OF SOME OF THE CRIMES YOU'VE CHARGED HER WITH, HOW COULD THE LOCAL PEOPLE AROUND HERE TRUST YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE NOT TO DO THAT SORT OF THING AGAIN, IF YOU COULD LIVE IN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS AFTER THIS INCIDENT?

A: Our neighbors have to understand our way of life and of our way at looking at things. For example, I accuse Sheela for many wrong things that she and her group did. Still I love her, her group, and no action can make the being of the person corrupted. Action is a small thing, being is a huge potential. You do something wrong; that does not mean you are a wrong individual. We hate your wrong act, but we don't hate you.

So if she comes back she will be welcomed. She will not be given the power she had and

we will not prevent the legal processes against her. We will help the law in every possible way to find all criminal acts that she has done, but that has nothing to do with our love for a human being. Howsoever criminal a human being is, after all he is a human being. And acts are small things.

And it is a well-known fact that even Judas who sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, felt guilty and within twenty-four hours committed suicide. Now his suicide Christians don't talk about, because his suicide is immensely significant. He is simply destroying his whole life out of guilt. And a person who can feel guilty... and he is confessing by his suicide his guilt. I have immense love for Judas. He was a man of conscience.

People commit mistake. It is just human to err. My position is: we will accept them with love, but we will not protect them against the law. We will help the law to put their actions right. So it looks a little complicated, but this is how my approach to life is. I condemn always the action and never the person. The person has always the possibility to change.

Perhaps Sheela right now is repenting what she has done. She had taken almost twenty peoples group from here. One of them has written from halfway, she is here back, she was afraid that she will not be accepted. We said, "That is not the question. You are not the problem... your action... And if you feel that it was wrong and if you are ready to accept its consequences courageously, our love is for you, but our love is not for anything antilegal. So if law finds you, and we will... if we find, deliver you to the law.

And those who have been phoning, the mayor of the city, Krishna Deva, phoned and he was crying on the phone that it was not right to leave. My people informed me. I said, "If he wants to come back, this is his home, but make it clear that anything that he has committed against law, we will not support and we will expose him to the law. So that he has to decide.

The situation has completely changed. The people who were putting the whole community against law have left. It feels cleaner. And if those twenty people come by themselves or are brought by the police back to America, our love for them will remain the same. But what they have done they have to suffer the consequences of it. It is their action and the result has to be accepted. I want to inform the government that we will be now in a strange position. We are not against the state, against the government. The group who was against has left. Now we will be all for the state and for the government and for the law even against those people. We do not want to support any illegality.

And if we are against in any cases fighting government, it is because only they are going against the basic constitutional rights of human beings. We are always for American constitution. So who commits the crime does not matter. But crime is an act, a small thing in the big life of a being. For that small act the whole being cannot be condemned.

That's why I am against death sentence. A man has murdered somebody and you murder the man! Then the society is committing the same immoral, inhuman act as the person. But because the society has power and the courts and the law, so it can continue. The best thing would be that if you find that somebody has murdered he should be given to the psychiatrist, psychologist. He should be put in a mental institute. Something is wrong with the man, but his dignity as a human being should not be humiliated. He should be cured. He is sick.

Do you know that in the middle ages a madman was thought to be a criminal and the only cure was to beat him, to take his blood out, so much so that he will become very weak. Naturally when he becomes very weak his madness also becomes very weak. They thought this is a cure. Now we know madness is not a crime, it is a sickness.

My understanding is that all criminal acts are sick and the person needs our sympathy, not our revenge, otherwise we are no more different than the person. He needs sympathy. You

cannot by putting him into a electric chair bring the dead man back whom he has murdered, so what is the point? It has been said that this is to teach others not to murder. That is simply stupid.

Because in England, just hundred years before, every thief was hanged in the main square of the city, naked, and beaten. And a crowd of thousands will gather to look at him. This was thought to be a teaching lesson to the people, that if they do stealing, this will be the result. But finally they had to stop it because they found that people became so interested in looking that other people were cutting their pockets. What teaching? You are teaching by beating a thief and thieves are having a great day because all the crowd was so much interested in the kill, the punishment they forget all about their pockets. Only when they looked afterwards their pockets were gone. So it was not only one pocket that was stolen, many pockets were stolen. So many people were doing stealing exactly on the spot. That's why the practice was stopped.

And my feeling is all our legal punishments are of the same kind. They don't stop anybody, they don't change the person, in fact they make the person more criminal. If you send a person for five years to jail there he finds more expert criminals. You are sending him to a university of crime. And after five years when he comes out, he is more clever, more cunning, and it will be more difficult to catch hold of him.

My approach is, a crime is something wrong with the psychology of the man. He should be treated just like any sick person. And unless you feel that he is healthy he should be kept isolated from the society, but no disrespect to his personality. It has to be made clear to him that "Your act is just because of something is wrong with your mind and we are trying to change it."

So these people come here. I am perfectly available. They will not get their posts back, but they can be part of the commune. But the commune is not going to protect them against law. On the contrary, the commune is going to help the law against them. But we will plead to the courts that "These people are mentally sick and punishment is not enough; it does not change anybody. Send them to psychiatric institutions, treat them."
So it is a little bit complex, but life is complex.

INTERVIEW WITH BILL CROWN FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND
Q: OSHO, I'M ON KIND OF A TIGHT DEADLINE IF YOU COULD GIVE ME A FAIRLY BRIEF ANSWER I WOULD APPRECIATE IT. I'M WONDERING WHETHER THE HEAVY SECURITY CAN END NOW, IF YOU CAN DISARM RAJNEESHPURAM?

A: No!

Q: WHY NOT?

A: You want a small answers? Then just no!

Q: THAT'S IT? THANK YOU.
INTERVIEW WITH BILL BAXTER, NBC NETWORK NEWS.
Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE ASSESS THE DAMAGE CAUSED TO YOUR COMMUNITY BY

THE REVELATIONS OVER SHEELA AND ALSO IF YOU COULD TELL ME WHAT STEPS YOU ARE TAKING TO INSURE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN AGAIN?

A: It could happen because I was silent in all these three and half years. Since I came to America I have remained silent, in isolation. That's why the whole thing happened. Otherwise thirty years in my life, nothing like this has happened before. So it was simply the gap that Sheela unconsciously took advantage of. She was my secretary and when I had chosen her my secretary she was just a simple human, loving being; no politics in her mind, no power tricks. But three and half year remaining the head of five thousand sannyasins, millions of dollars...

Power is a very significant factor. It can bring your unconscious desires to the conscious level. It does not corrupt you, it just brings your corruption to reality. Without power you cannot do anything; with power you can do anything. And that's what happened.

Now I have decided not to stop speaking and be direct in communion with my people, as I have been always. And there has never been any problem.

Secondly, I have taken many steps because in my absence -- I may die tomorrow -- and the same thing can happen again. So I am decentralizing power. It will not be in one man's hand. There will be several corporations of equal status, several presidents of equal status and there will be corporations completely free and independent from the religious foundation. For example, university should be an completely independent organization on its own. Decentralization of power, changing the people more often so they don't start taking their position granted, as if it is a life-long position. It is better to have some difficulty... because a person in a year becomes acquainted, capable, doing better... but I would like to take that risk, giving the position to a new person, and the old relaxes back, takes any other job in the commune. So it will be a kind of rotation and a short period of power which you cannot corrupt the commune, because you know within six months you will be part of the commune and somebody else will be in your place.

And I am making my people more aware, for the simple reason because my teaching is of doubt, skepticism, agnosticism, it is not based on belief, not on surrender, not on faith. But because I was silent, this is what they were told, that to create the commune you have to surrender yourself. And Sheela is Osho's representative and whatsoever she says, she is the spokesman of Osho. Now there is going to be no spokesman for me. As long as I am alive, I am my own spokesman.

And I don't hold any position; I have never been in any position. I am not even a sannyasin. I am not member of the commune. I am just a guest, they love me, they can ask for advice; that's all. To follow it or not to follow is their business. I never even ask what happened to my advice.

And my whole insistence is to be very doubtful, very skeptical and always remember that the human tendency is to exploit other human beings. So anything you feel can exploit you, any order that is given to you and you feel it is inhuman, you refuse point blank. For example, Sheela was trying to kill people. She managed to kill one person and the people simply trusted that whatever she is saying they have just to surrender. They behaved like Christians, Hindus, Mohammedans... not like my people. So it has made me aware that I have to awaken my people and make them more individual, more free and do things only when they appeal to their intelligence, to their rationality. And once they do anything on their own intelligence they are responsible for it, they cannot dump it on anybody else, because they

had the chance to say no.

So it will take few days, but I will make it defused... and it is not going to be difficult. We have a very intelligent group of people. The only problem that created the whole thing was that I became almost an invisible God to them and Sheela became the pope. I have never made her a pope, so it is not difficult at all. And people have to be trained for democratic values and respect those democratic values.

Anything that has happened in these three years, efforts to kill my physician, my caretaker, my dentist, if the people were a little alert and not gullible, they would have refused, or they would have informed the police. Much poison was asked from the pharmacist here to order, but he seems to be a man of understanding, he refused. He said, "This much poison is of no use." But he suspected for what they are ordering so much poison? But this was enough. If he was a little more alert, he should have reported the police immediately. Although he refused, but he did not report anybody. And that poison they were ordering, and they managed to get it from somewhere, to poison the Dalles water system. Now this is simply ugly, sickening.

They brought three thousand street people... And to me they lied. Sheela said, that "We have from the festival surplus money and it will be a good humanitarian act to have a share home program. I said, "If you have more money, then it is perfectly good." But later on I discovered that it was not share home program, that it was an effort to take over the county. And I am absolutely against dirty politics, I don't want my people to be involved in politics in any way.

Just this morning I have told my people, that change the name of City of Rajneesh back to Antelope. There is no need. Antelope is perfectly beautiful name. And why hurt people unnecessarily, psychologically? And I have made it clear that if people from Antelope are ready to buy all the properties that foundation owns in Antelope... We have purchased it from them, we have improved the property, they were all dilapidated old houses, we have renovated them. In four years time the prices have gone up, but I have said that we will give those properties on the same rate as we had purchased them. So just anybody who wants to take those properties can take and I can move my people here. There is no need for my people to live there. We have such a big place, one hundred twenty-six square miles, three times bigger than New York, we can create three New Yorks here, although we are not going to create, because to me cities like New York are just ugly, against nature. We will make small cottages around the mountains, hills, around the lakes, so people can live in harmony with nature. And we are ready to leave Antelope.

And anything that this group has done which is illegal, if it can be undone, we are ready to undo it. And now it should be made clear to the government of Oregon and to the federal government that our basic enemy is the same, this group of a dozen or so people who have been trying to create a fascist state, we will supply everything that we can find, but the government has to be helpful to us and their hostility should not be for the innocent sannyasins and the commune. The people they were hostile are gone. They should be after them, they should put Interpol after them, they should be brought back in chains and we are getting sannyasins now who are eyewitnesses of their crimes. If the government is willing to give protection to these eyewitnesses, more eyewitnesses will be coming forward and there is going to be no problem.

But one thing is certain that now there is no question of any hostility between Rajneeshpuram and Oregon. It was a small group who was powerful, who was creating the hostility. And this is a simple fascist tactics, if you want to remain in power, go on creating

more and more phobia, fear, paranoia, that everybody is against you. And they had created it, but I don't see that everybody is against us. The only people from the outside I have come across are the journalists and these are the people who are most skeptical, intelligent, not gullible, yet I have found them very human, very loving. So I don't think everybody is against us; there is no reason to be against us. Yes, this group was doing things that they may have created an antagonism, an hostility. Now all that hostility should disappear without any problem.

And we can help the state of Oregon in many ways. We can make this place one of the world's best holiday resort. Already every year twenty thousand people are coming here for annual festival, staying for one month. And all the year round thousands of people coming and going. We have created a great source of income for the state. We have created tourism. The government should be a little helpful. We can make it one of the best and beautiful health resort in the whole of America.

But strange that we invite them -- they don't come. Perhaps this gang of fascists was a barrier, but now there is no barrier. We invite the governor, we invite the attorney general to see our people and to see what we have done in a desert, where there was growing nothing. Now five thousand people are living self-sufficiently, growing their food, their vegetables, their fruits, their milk products and making the place as green as possible. Just a little help from the government and we can make it a lush green paradise.

And there is no possibility of happening it again, at least while I am alive. And the Oregonian air and the earth have fallen in love with me. My health has never been better in twenty years as it is today; I am going to live really long.
Thank you.

INTERVIEW WITH DIRK MADISON, "PEOPLE" MAGAZINE.

A: Hi.

Q: OSHO, I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS AND I'D APPRECIATE BRIEF ANSWERS, IF YOU CAN DO THAT. FIRST, HAVE YOU HAD ANY CONTACT WITH SHEELA SINCE SHE LEFT?

A: No.

Q: SECONDLY, CAN YOU TELL US HOW AND WHEN YOU FIRST HEARD OF SHEELA'S CRIMES, AND YOUR INITIAL EMOTIONS WHEN YOU FOUND OUT?

A: Your question shows you don't know me at all. I don't have any emotional reactions to anything. Whatever happens I take it rejoicingly. Even if death comes, I will meet it with a song and a smile on my lips.

And the departure of this group was not bad at all. For the first time the whole commune, including me, feeling a freshness of air, a freedom, as if we had planned to make a meditation camp and she has turned it into a concentration camp. The moment the commune heard it they were so rejoiced that they started dancing in the streets and singing for hours that now

there is no concentration camp and again we can go to our basic idea, meditation. So it has been a blessing.

INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD DRAPER, KOIN TV FROM PORTLAND.
Q: I'LL ALSO SEEK AN ABRIDGED SHORT ANSWER IF I COULD. BEFORE SHE LEFT IN NEWS CONFERENCES YOU SAID THAT SHEELA WAS NOT TOUGH ENOUGH IN HER COMMENTS TO OREGONIANS, ABOUT GOVERNMENT. YOU YOURSELF HAD SOME RATHER STRONG WORDS OF CRITICISM ABOUT OREGONIANS, ABOUT JUDGES, POLITICIANS. SHEELA LEFT AND NOW YOU'RE HOLDING YOUR HANDS OUT TO OREGONIANS AND SAYING THAT YOU LOVE THEM ALL, AND THERE SHOULD BE NO REASON FOR HOSTILITY. WAS SHEELA THAT INSTRUMENTAL IN THE FORMATION OF YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT OREGONIANS AND GOVERNMENT?

A: You want small answers, but you forget to ask small questions.

Whatever I have said, that Sheela is not assertive enough stands. I still say she is not assertive enough. In a world full of lies truth needs to be very assertive, only then it can be heard. Jesus says to his disciples, climb the roofs of the houses and shout as loudly as you can, because people are deaf. So when I said that shee is not assertive enough, aggressive enough, this was my meaning. She or anybody who is fighting against lies of all kinds has to be aggressive and has to be assertive and she was not. And what I am saying today is not against her assertions. I am saying that she was doing things underground which are ugly, of which I was not aware. I knew her statements, but I did not know her state of criminal mind.

Secondly, you say that people think I have the insight into people's mind and life. Certainly I have, but future is open. This very moment I can see you, a beautiful man, but next moment you can turn up a murderer. The next moment is unpredictable. And to me this is one of most significant indication of human dignity, that his future is always open. You can read his past, but you cannot determine his future accordingly. There are thousands of changes possible. A murderer can become a saint and a saint can become a rapist. I can see you in this moment, but I am not in agreement that future can be predicted.

If future can be predicted, that means there is no freedom, that man is just a machine. Only machine's future can be predicted, not human beings. Nobody is capable, for the simple reason because future is freedom. Thousands of things you can choose, you can change. Having this idea, and it is a very prevalent idea, that future can be predicted. Astrologers live on it, predictors live on it, prophets live on it. It is really a great source of exploitation. But the reality is that the future is absolutely open. You can become anything, it all depends on thousands of circumstances.

So I cannot predict anybody's future. I can say what he is in the present and I am in tremendous love with the freedom. It is good that future cannot be predicted, otherwise life will lose all meaning. If somebody can give you a chart that "This is your future life, that tomorrow morning you will take coffee and make love to your wife, or somebody elsea wife." And if he can make in detail your whole future, it will be like seeing the same movie again. Whole joy will be gone out of life. Life is an excitement because there is something new happening every moment, something that even you could not have conceived about yourself. This is shear beauty.

And I believe that all these astrologies and star gazers and palmists are just exploiting human weakness. Everybody wants to know about tomorrow, for the simple reason because

his today is nothing but misery. He wants some hope for tomorrow. My people are not concerned for tomorrow, because we don't say that tomorrow never comes. We KNOW it never comes. It is always one moment that is given to you, not even two moments together are given to you. When one is gone, then you get another. And it is good, every moment it is fresh. You may become old, you may become conditioned, you may become a bigot, you may have ideologies, but the time flow is absolutely fresh, young and innocent. And I want my people's future existential.

When I had chosen Sheela she was a beautiful person, nice in every way, capable of many things. But future is unpredictable, nothing can be said about it. Still she may change and I hope that she will change. I have received a friends message who had gone there and seen them, they are all in misery. What she can do? What can offer to the people she has taken with herself, hiding in a small village near Zurich, how long? All joy has disappeared. If she has any intelligence and I know she has, she should come back and face any criminal charges that are against her. In fact, just now I have been informed, before I reached you, that the day she left with her group she had received some information from a friend who is in contact with the U.S. Supreme Court chief justice in Oregon and she had received the message that grand jury is to convene soon. That is the reason that she suddenly packed and escaped because these are the twenty people who have escaped, who have done every kind of crime. She knew it, that these will be indicted.

But I will say to her, this is no way to face reality. Come back and face the grand jury and if you have committed any crime, then accept it. There is no need to hide. This will give you respect of the whole community. And you cannot hide, where you can hide? This globe is so small, my sannyasins are everywhere, Interpol may not be very potential, very powerful because I know the Interpol goes on looking for people for five years and cannot find them, but my sannyasins can find these people wherever they are. They have already located, already met them and just not to be identified they have changed their clothes, they are not looking like sannyasins so they are not to be discriminated. But this is not a life. It is better to be behind the bars, but with dignity. This is falling into your own eyes.

I know she is intelligent, she knows she has many abilities and perhaps because of those capacities, abilities and intelligence she turned out to be a fascist. Finding the chance... Because the creative activities can become destructive. It is the same energy. The destructive activities can become creative. It is only a question of directing your energy.

My feeling and understanding is that the politicians who fail become criminals and the criminals who succeed become politicians, presidents, prime ministers. But they belong to the same category, the same energy moving into two directions. At the time of the Watergate when Mao Tse-tung heard that Nixon had resigned, he could not believe it. His statement is significant. He said, "This is strange. Every politician is doing it, just this poor Nixon has been caught." And every politician certainly is doing it, more or less, according to one's capacity.

Seeing that so many people suddenly are under her power -- and I am not speaking, I was speaking only to her -- she was carrying my message. I don't know how much was edited. She was bringing people's information to me; I don't know what was brought to me, what was real, what was unreal. She was telling to the people that, "This is what Osho's message is." And people love me, they have loved me perhaps as no man has ever been loved. One million people around the earth simply ready to do anything for me; their trust is total. She exploited the opportunity. But it is all human, it is nothing very special. Perhaps anybody in her position would have done the same.

I am not angry at her, I am simply sad for her. I would like her to come back home and try to be an ordinary sannyasin without any power and face whatever she has done with dignity. There is nothing wrong in it. Facing it, it can be cleared and she can be again her own self, her own pure, innocent, simple, beautiful person. I will accept her, but I will not protect her any crime.

DRAPER: YOU SAID SHE WAS TOLD ABOUT SOME GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS. WHAT WAS THE SOURCE OF THAT?

A: That I don't know. There is some mediation continuously going on between the government and the city because there are so many conflicts about the legality of the city. It is under litigation. And the government is in a trouble because they incorporated the city, for two years it was legal, and then suddenly it became illegal. In fact, they should be punished. Why they made it legal? And for two years they were giving funds, federal government was giving funds to the city, then suddenly it became illegal. There seems to be some pressure. Perhaps the Christianity pressurizing, perhaps their own politics pressurizing, because to win any election in Oregon all that you have to do is to be against me and my people. That's enough qualification to win the election.

So now they are in a difficulty. They want the case to be decided in a state court which is absolutely absurd. Because when state and city are fighting, when state itself is a client, it cannot be decided in a state court, because the state court belongs to the state, will have all its pressures from the state. We want it to be decided by a federal court. And I don't understand why they are afraid of a federal court. The very fear shows they know that from a federal court they are going to be defeated; their influence won't work.

So they have been sending mediators somehow to find a solution. They are really afraid now to lose a case. They have been losing many cases against the city, because every case is illegal. Just few days before the Attorney General declared one point; four million dollar punishment because we had made few structures without permission. Now tents don't need any permission; only permanent structures need permission. But our tents were not ordinary tents, we have invented a new tent for which we have applied to be patented. We have invented a tent which can be winterized. In snow it will be as useful, in rain as useful and we have used material which is used in permanent structures. Only then it can be winterized. So they just... and we asked them to come and see the tents before they decide the punishment. They are not permanent structures. But he went on and declared. So I told my people, "Just take a tent into the court. Assemble it within ten minutes and tell the judge to see into it and dissemble it within ten minutes and put it back into the bag and ask him, "Can a permanent building be assembled in ten minutes and reassembled in ten minutes?" And the judge had really a laugh. He said, "This is absurd. This case is simply dismissed."

If the Attorney General has any dignity, he should have jumped into the ocean. Putting 1.4 million dollar punishment without even taking a look whether it is a tent or a permanent structure, simply shows a very bigoted, dirty politician.

So if anything... Now they are trying to put the case into a state court. And this is a simple thing. When state itself is involved in the court, state court cannot decide it; they are part of the state. The case should go to the federal court. It is such a simple thing that a person who knows nothing of law can say. So they have been sending mediators. They know that the case is going to go into a federal court and they will be defeated, badly defeated. And then we are

going to ask for many millions, because for these two years that the city has been illegal we have suffered immense economic loss.

So one of the mediators informed, who has fallen in love with the place, coming again and again and seeing the people dancing and singing after working twelve hours a day. Because it is not a easy job to change the desert. But we enjoyed the challenge. And he just informed that perhaps within few days the indictment is going to come.

So all the people who felt that it will be against them because they have committed some crime, they escaped. We are not going to support any criminal, but we make a division between the individual and his criminal act. We will support the individual with our love, but we will support the state and the law as far as his criminal act is concerned. And they will feel more clean if they come back and more stronger. It is always good to confess if you have done something wrong. It takes a burden off your chest. Even if the result is few years in jail, it doesn't matter. You can change those few years in jail in a beautiful meditation, isolation, meditation, work, freedom from all worries, there is no harm. And after three years my people will be there in front of the gate of the jail to receive you, you are coming fresh again. But hiding will make you suffocate, it will take all juice out of your life.

And soon you will see that many of them will start coming. One has come back, another has phoned that he is suffering badly. Soon the others will start, because what they are going to do? And they were living here a life of love and joy, of utter blissfulness. So I don't think that their hiding will last long. Either they will come by themselves or the Swiss police will catch hold of them. We have informed the Swiss police, the German police, the American police and we have told them to inform the international police and we have given their place where they are and they should be caught immediately, because their crime is big.

They have bugged many houses here and strangely enough, even my bedroom. I don't know for what reason, because in my bedroom I sleep alone. Perhaps once in a while in the night just out of habit I deliver a religious discourse, otherwise there is nothing to be bugged. They had bugged my sitting place. They have been taping all the telephones. They killed one man, they tried to kill three others and now we have eyewitnesses who saw one woman who has escaped with them, injecting my personal physician in a public meeting. And he immediately became aware because he is a physician, a doctor, with all the best qualifications from England. He immediately took his robe and showed to people blood coming out and the place where the injection has been put.

But there are poisons which are not detectable. So they were using those poisons which are not detectable, but in slow doses will kill a person in six months, eight months time, and you cannot even think that this is a murder. The person will start becoming weaker and weaker and weaker, more ready to be infected by anything. And he will die by some disease. And now we have discovered in Sheela's room much literature on poison, how to give it, in how much doses.

We have discovered the plans of all the houses where rooms are bugged, the maps and we are following the maps and finding that they are true. Just yesterday by chance, because Hasya has been chosen by the foundation members to be the new president, so she has moved in Sheela's room. She discovered that from that room goes a tunnel inside. So just out of curiosity they went in to see what is there. There she has few rooms and a tunnel to get out. So it seems a very well planned thing. In one car we have found all kinds of literature; how to make bombs, and all chemicals which are needed to make bombs.

One sannyasin has confessed that the one office, perhaps the planning office in Wasco county which was burned, was burned by Sheela's group. That one judge from Wasco county

who felt that he has been poisoned through tea was really poisoned. Now we have witnesses. Now these crimes cannot be just forgiven. Something has to be done about it.

One sannyasin who was our best pilot... Sheela wanted him to take one of our planes loaded with bombs and gas, as much as it can carry, and crash it with Wasco county building and jump before crash in a parachute..."To save yourself, but destroy the county building." Because he refused, he was immediately sent to Germany. He phoned from there, that "I am immensely happy that gang has moved. Can I come back?" So I said, "You have to come back because you may be needed to testify that you have been told to do this. Because you refused you have been removed." And many people have been removed, perhaps they did not obey or perhaps they obeyed and there was fear that it may be discovered so they have to be removed immediately somewhere else.

All this was happening and it could happen only because the commune is interested in its own work, the work is too much. We have to create our food, we have to create our vegetables, we have to create our houses...

And I am very much against poverty. To me poverty is our own creation. It could have been stopped long before. And in my commune there is nobody who is poor. Everybody is enjoying everything that a human being should have. The whole commune is fully air-conditioned. For five thousand sannyasins, air-conditioned, beautiful rooms with all latest equipment for comfort.

So they are continuously in work, making roads, making houses. We are doing everything on our own. Teaching in the university, taking courses, taking care of the children, of the school, taking care of the cleaning of the whole commune. You will not find a cleaner place anywhere. Taking care against any kind of infection like AIDS so that nobody suffers from this commune. Nowhere in the world they have taken all these measurements that we are taking. So the commune is totally absorbed in its work.

I was silent and almost outside the commune and she got a good gap to do whatsoever crime she wanted to commit. But this is not going to happen again. It has been a good lesson to us.

Okay.

INTERVIEW WITH MIKE HOUSICAL, THE GLOBE, USA; THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA; AND THE STAR, LONDON, UK
Q: WOULD YOU COMMENT ON A REPORT WHICH I GOT FROM ZURICH THIS MORNING THAT SHEELA IS SPENDING AT THE RATE OF FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS A WEEK ON TWO CREDIT CARDS OWNED BY THE RAJNEESH INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

A: Yes, some information has come to commune office here too, that they have taken commune money from the bank which is illegal. It is not for anybody's personal use, but because Sheela has married a Swiss sannyasin who was able to withdraw the money, they may be spending, but we have put... because the commune has asked, "Should we get them arrested?" So we have informed them that they should be arrested on two counts, the money they have completely taken out of the bank, one thing.

Second thing, Sheela has committed bigamy. She was married to an American and without divorcing him she married a Swiss sannyasin just to get into Switzerland and get the residence permit there. And then she became aware that this is bigamy and this is illegal here,

this is illegal in Switzerland, a crime. So she went to Nepal. Nepal is a poor country in India where you can bribe any magistrate very easily. And got a divorce pre-dated which we can prove because she was helped by our sannyasins there. And we can prove that it was after the marriage. So report the bigamy thing also and get them arrested.

Q: SO HOW MANY TIMES HAS SHE BEEN MARRIED THEN SIR, BECAUSE HER FIRST HUSBAND WAS MARK SILVERMAN, I BELIEVE.

A: Yes.

Q: NOW HE DIED OF CANCER.

A: He died of cancer.

Q: THEN HER SECOND HUSBAND WAS JOHN SHELFER, WHO SHE MARRIED ON A JUMBO JET GOING TO INDIA.

A: He was her second husband, Jayananda.

Q: BUT IF THE FIRST HUSBAND WAS DEAD, SIR, THEN THAT WOULDN'T BE BIGAMY, WOULD IT?

A: No, the second husband is alive and this is a third husband.

Q: WHY DID SHE GO TO MEXICO AT THE END OF JULY?

A: Just to marry this Swiss man. And that we have come just to know, because people have opened their mouths, not fearing her. Her own secretary she wanted to take with her, afraid that she knows everything, but she is a brave woman, she simply refused to go. And she said she will stay here. And she has given the whole information that they went to Mexico to marry and then she came here and then became aware of the bigamy, then went to Nepal to get a pre-dated... And sent her old husband to Australia so he does not come in between anywhere, he is not even aware perhaps.

Q: DO YOU KNOW YET SIR FROM YOUR BOOKKEEPERS JUST HOW MUCH IS MISSING IN MONEY?

A: Difficult. It will take a little time because the person who was in charge of the finances has also escaped with them. But one thing is certain, that fifty-five million debt they had left behind out of which certainly some money they must have shifted before they moved away

from here.

Q: HOW DOES THAT LEAVE THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNE FINANCIALLY RIGHT NOW?

A: Perfectly good, there is no problem.

Q: HAVE MANY PEOPLE LEFT BECAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT?

A: No. Many people will be coming back who had left because of Sheela and her group and their behavior. It was obnoxious and...

Q: DO THE POLICE ANTICIPATE A QUICK ARREST?

A: They should be arrested quickly before they commit more crime. That is a simple thing to understand, that criminals should not be left loose for long, they can commit more crime.

INTERVIEW WITH ROGER WORTHINGTON, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Q: OSHO, IT SEEMS SHEELA'S ABUSE OF POWER OCCURRED WITH A WEAK RAJNEESH FOUNDATION BOARD AND A WEAK RUBBER-STAMP CITY COUNCIL. DOES THE GREATER RESPONSIBILITY YOU URGE RAJNEESHPURAM INCLUDE A TRULY INDEPENDENT, EMPOWERED CITY COUNCIL THAT WILL SPEAK FOR THE CITY OF RAJNEESHPURAM AND REPRESENT ALL THE PEOPLE OF RAJNEESHPURAM AND IN A TRUE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE?

A: She was president of the Rajneesh Foundation. She was the most important person and because all the finances belonged to the religious trust, everything that has to be done in the commune, they have to look for loans from the foundation. Naturally, by and by she became more and more powerful over these people. They were all, they are all separate corporations. And because she was my secretary, that created the whole problem. So anything between me and my sannyasins, the corporations, the city councils, she was to bring the message to me and I have to give the answer. Now the message she could bring according to her idea what she wanted and my answer also she could manage in her own way. Whatever she wanted that this iss my answer. And there was no way for people to know whether this is my answer or not.

And they love me and they trust me and they have loved me for all these fifteen years and they know me, that I cannot take any advantage of their love and trust. So they simply accepted Sheela's word as representing me. This is the whole cause that created the problem. And seeing it, the moment I became aware that something is going wrong, because I had still approach of my physician, my dentist, my caretaker. I could get a little information from them. And as I became aware that something is going wrong, I started speaking again and

became available to the commune.

The whole commune was excited and ecstatic except Sheela and her group, because they lost their whole grip. Now nobody was going to listen to them. From that moment she started going to Australia for any small excuse, for Japan, for Singapore, for Europe, for Switzerland. And finally this time when she came she wrote me a letter. She did not have the courage even to face me. She wrote a letter that "I don't feel anymore excitement of coming here. In fact I feel happier in Europe, in Australia, or anywhere else."

The next day I answered in the public lecture, that why she is not feeling excitement anymore, because she has no more any power. She may be the president, but she cannot dominate and exploit the commune. And why she is feeling happy in Europe, because we have many communes in Europe where she is still my representative because I am not going there. But if she wants to know the exact reason, I can come to Europe, or to Singapore, or to Japan, or to Australia, anywhere she wants and immediately she will see there her excitement disappearing.

Q: OSHO, HAD THE CITY COUNCIL BEEN FUNCTIONING AS CITY COUNCILS DO IN MOST CITIES, AND HAD THE MAYOR BEEN FUNCTIONING AS MOST MAYORS FUNCTION, THEN THIS ALLEGED ABUSE OF POWER BY SHEELA WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE, THAT SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN COUNTERMANDED AND CALLED TO QUESTION BY THE DULY ELECTED BODIES OF RAJNEESHPURAM. AND THAT WAS NOT THE CASE. I'M WONDERING WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT MORE RESPONSIBILITY BY YOUR FOLLOWERS, WHETHER OR NOT THAT INCLUDES A GREATER SENSE OF DEMOCRATIC FUNCTIONING BY THE DULY POLITICAL BODIES OF THE CITY?

A: That is true. The mayor of Rajneeshpuram has also disappeared with her. Perhaps he was also part of the gang. And there is absolute democracy as far as these city councils are concerned. But my approach to democracy is far higher than party politics. In a small commune of five thousand people, I can create again a better democracy like Athens. We don't have any parties, but we want to come to an unanimous decision about everything. And people are intelligent, and they can see who is capable of doing what, so by talking, discussing, coming to a certain conclusion, we never fight, that three candidates stand up for a post unless there is a consensus in the whole commune for one person and the whole commune is ready to support him. In fact the commune pursues the person to stand up for the post, not the person standing up for the post and then bragging about himself and giving promises to you that "I will do this and that." and making a campaign. There is no campaign. It is just the reverse. The commune comes to a consensus that this man seems to be the right person, persuade him. And it is very difficult because nobody wants to get into politics.

So it is a different approach to democracy, to true democracy, where every decision is nonpolitical, but unanimous. In the ordinary democracy, fifty-one percent people rule over forty-nine percent people. It is not much of a democracy. And sometimes actually what happens is, that the majority rules over the minority, it can be understood. But the vice versa happens. The minority rules over majority.

I will give you an example. I was in a city, Jabalpur in India and the corporation consisted of twenty-one members; ten members of one party, ten members of another party, and one woman who was independent. And she was the most third-rate candidate out of all, but she

had the key. Whomsoever she joins will become the ruling council. And her condition was whoever makes her mayor, she will join. Those who made her mayor, she joined that group. Now a single woman is ruling the whole city who has not voted for her, just a small minority ruling the whole majority and deciding for everybody.

The same was the situation with Indira Gandhi. Only thirty percent of the Indian Parliament was in her favor. Seventy percent was against, but because they were divided amongst themselves they could not defeat her. So thirty percent is ruling over seventy percent. And do you call it democracy?

A real democracy can exist only in small communes. And my idea of democracy is that the whole world, instead of being divided into countries should be divided into communes, millions of communes around the world. And every commune coming to unanimous decisions and a direct democracy. And it is very easy, because these five thousand people here know everybody, who is who.

Q: IT SEEMS THAT THE FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY ABDICATED RESPONSIBILITY FOR MA SHEELA'S DECISIONS; THEY GAVE IN THEIR CONSENSUS OF SUPPORT. AND SHE ASSUMED POWER OVER THE ELECTED BODIES OF THE CITY.

A: No, they are not responsible, because you can choose anybody who is completely innocent and can turn a criminal the next day. There is no responsibility of the whole commune. The whole commune decided for Sheela and other posts, for people who were really good and human. But power corrupts people.

Q: IT WAS ALSO OBVIOUS TO QUITE A FEW OF US FROM THE OUTSIDE THAT THE HOTEL ROOMS AT HOTEL RAJNEESH, THE TELEPHONE LINES WERE BUGGED A YEAR AGO AT THIS TIME. IT MUST HAVE BEEN OBVIOUS TO SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED IN THE AREA AROUND THE SWITCHBOARD IN THE HOTEL. WAS THAT KNOWLEDGE COMMUNICATED TO YOU, OR OTHER PEOPLE IN POWER OTHER THAN THOSE SURROUNDING MA SHEELA?

A: You have to understand one thing. Germany is one of the most intelligent country in the world, but it was ruled by a crackpot, Adolf Hitler. And even the best minds in Germany like Martin Heidegger was in support of him. Only after his defeat people became aware that what they were doing was not right. It is a very simple human phenomenon. For example, if Sheela says to the telephone operator to tape any conversation because there are thirty informers imposed by the government into the commune. The telephone operator feels perfectly okay, the operator is not committing any crime seeing that the government has imposed people. And it WAS a truth, that there were informers here. Perhaps they are still here, but now there is nothing to inform. So if she said to tape their conversations, knowing perfectly well it is not legal, but it is also not legal to put informers in the commune. So simply they followed her, seeing that she is trying to save the commune.

Now they understand that it was wrong. For example, my own room was bugged. Naturally the person who must have bugged the room must have felt that, "What is going on? Why I am bugging the room of a man I love and I trust, for whom I have come here for

thousands of miles?" But Sheela must have given her an excuse, that that bugging is just to protect Osho, so if anybody enters in the room or any trouble is created in the room, immediately the guards come to know about it. Because it was bugged and the guards had the connection and Sheela will be able to reach within five minutes. So she must have given some kind of explanation to these people which was legitimate. And for every illegal activity you can find legitimate actions, legitimate explanations. So these people are simple and innocent and trusting people. They thought whatever she is doing, she is doing for the commune's safety.

But her own desire to do it was totally different. There was no danger for me for anybody to enter into my room. I don't see. But she was continuously in a paranoia. Perhaps her own fear of doing all these crimes created the paranoia. And she wanted if these things were exposed, she would have said that she has done everything to protect Osho.

But I don't need any protection. I have lived my life enough, in fact, more than enough, and so intensely and so totally, that I am fulfilled completely, utterly contented. So death comes now, it destroys nothing, because future holds nothing for me, only a repetition. So there is no question, and it is far better to be assassinated than to die in an ordinary way on a bed. Ninety-nine percent people die on the bed. I don't want to do that. That is too ordinary! Assassination is far better.

And what security? I had told her many times that "Don't be worried about security too much, because what security you can give to me in a country like America, where twenty percent presidents have been assassinated who have all possible security, so what security you can give to me?" But to the other people she was saying that it is for the security of Osho that we have to do this, we have to do that. That information is coming every day now that it was said to them that it is for Osho's security that we have to be ready to make bombs, to make a underground tunnel in case Osho has to be taken out without anybody knowing. I have no idea of that tunnel either; just today I have heard about it, but I would like to see it. And we will use it in some beautiful way, make some good restaurant there or something beautiful so everybody can come and see... What problem is there? As far as my death is concernedd there is no problem. And as far as my life is concerned I am living it so luxuriously, there is no problem either. But she must have been cheating innocent people.

And they are coming up. And within seven days hundreds of sannyasins will expose their heart which they have been keeping just out of the fear because the gang, if they can kill my physician, make an attempt to kill my another physician, if they can kill a man and simply throw his body out of the ranch, these people must have been afraid.

And these people cannot go back to their own society for the simple reason that now there they will be unfit. They are totally deprogrammed. They cannot fit in a Christian church, because listening to the Bible they will remember me, that Osho used to say that the Holy Bible is the most holy pornographic book. They cannot be Hindus again because I have told them that Krishna has sixteen thousand wives and I don't think that is human, because what happened to the people... And these wives were stolen, they were other peoplesa wives, their husbands, their children were left behind and this man is considered to be the incarnation of God! Then what will be the incarnation of devil?

I have deprogrammed them completely, they cannot fit in any society. They can only fit with the sannyasins, so they did not want to create any trouble for themselves because Sheela was quick to throw people out. And she will inform you only when the person was thrown out. When he was no more here she will inform me that he was creating too much trouble and this and that, and any excuse.

Even my own bodyguard who has served me in India for almost seven years with absolute love and trust, she managed to throw him out because she did not want such a intimate person to me, because he knew in every way what is my message and what is my instruction. Sheela could not deceive him. He will detect immediately that this is not Osho's instruction, it cannot be. He has known me for seven years sitting by my side every day, morning, evening, and the whole day taking care of my security. Sheela could not tolerate him here.

Here is sitting Vivek, who has been with me even before Sheela may be born. She has been with me from 1970. And she has looked after me so devotedly, so lovingly, so carefully, not a single moment she has rested. The moment she wakes me from in the morning, six o'clock up to eleven or twelve sometimes, she is continuously on the run. Sheela never wanted her to be there, so close, because she understands me more than anybody else. Sheela cannot befool her. She tried to poison her and to kill her. And now we have persons who say that in front of them the plan was drawn that how Vivek should be killed, how poison should be delivered in teas, in coffees and how she should be brought to the Jesus house. These people are not responsible.

They had chosen her when she was really a different person. And a person has so many faces. Do you think when America had chosen Nixon that there will be a Watergate? Is not the whole America responsible for Watergate? Nobody knows about future. We can only decide what is available today. And what is hidden in the deep unconscious and the collective unconscious of the person, even the person is not aware.

So when power comes into your hands, your unconscious starts surfacing, and then your collective unconscious starts surfacing. Power gives you energy to do things which you would have never dreamt. Nobody is responsible. Even Sheela is not responsible, just a victim of her own unconscious mind.

HASYA: DR. SHUNYO HAS SENT IN A MESSAGE THAT SWAMI LAZARUS DIED WITHIN THE LAST HOUR. DR. INDIVAR ATTENDED TO HIM. WE CONSIDER HE HAS AIDS. HE PROBABLY DIED OF LYMPHOMA CANCER.

A: So a beautiful ceremony should be arranged.

HASYA: BECAUSE OF THE AIDS QUESTION, HE IS BEING RETESTED AND BECAUSE OF THE LEGAL ENQUIRIES WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER. NORMALLY WE WOULDN'T.

A: No, in fact, tell them the AIDS virus immediately dies as the person dies, so if the person is dead, you cannot find anything related to AIDS in his body. So it is just wasting of time, but if they want to do they can do it. But prepare a beautiful celebration to say goodbye to Lazarus.

INTERVIEW WITH WALDEN KIRSCH, KGW TV, PORTLAND.
Q: OSHO, I HAVE A MEDIUM LENGTH QUESTION AND I HOPE YOU WILL OBLIGE ME WITH A BRIEF RESPONSE. YOU HAVE MADE SOME VERY SERIOUS CHARGES

AGAINST YOUR FORMER AIDES IN THE PAST COUPLE DAYS. THESE CHARGES YOU KNOW COULD RESULT IN FEDERAL INDICTMENTS OR POSSIBLY EVEN PRISON TERMS. DO YOU THINK SHEELA'S GANG AS YOU'VE REFERRED TO HER, MAY TURN UPON YOU. DO YOU THINK THAT YOU MAY BE INDICTED, AND IF SO WOULD YOU APPEAR IN COURT?

A: I don't care about any problem. I will fell... I will face any challenge, there is no problem.

KIRSCH: WOULD YOU PERSONALLY TRAVEL TO COURT?

A: Yes, if there is a need, then I will face.

Q: DO YOU SEE THERE BEING A CHANCE THAT SHEELA COULD IN FACT TURN UPON YOU AND TESTIFY AGAINST YOU IN COURT.

A: No problem, because there is nothing that she can testify against me. The moment she will see me, she will fall into my feet and weep. There is no problem.

Q: SHOULD AN INDICTMENT BE HANDED DOWN, YOU'RE PERFECTLY WILLING HOW TO TRAVEL TO PORTLAND OR WHEREVER TO ANSWER CHARGES?

A: We will see that, because my whole powers of attorney are with the new president. If they are ready to give the summons to her, she will represent me, but if they want to me and they insist... It is against my health and they will have to take the responsibility if anything happens to me. I will travel anywhere, but it is against my health, so they will have to take the responsibility. So my legal people will see to it, that how many millions they will have to pay if I have an attack of asthma.

Q: YOU'RE CONFIDENT THAT SHE WILL NOT TESTIFY AGAINST YOU, IS THAT WHAT I HEAR YOU SAYING?

A: It is difficult, because what will be her mind at this moment, it cannot be at ease. Most probably she must be kept drugged by Puja because she must be in a great grief that she has betrayed me and the commune and left the commune in the times when she was needed. So it is difficult to say, but if she faces me in the court I am perfectly capable to face anybody. Sheela is just a child, nothing to be worried.

Q: YOU SAY THAT YOU LOVE HER STILL, DO YOU BELIEVE THAT SHE LOVES YOU AT THIS POINT?

A: Certainly. I love her and she loves me. That is a separate thing, totally separate. But her love was not so great that she could have avoided all these criminal things that she did, but I still love her. And I will propose before the court also that her actions may have been wrong, but the person is beautiful. And I have nothing against the person and I have loved the person, not his actions.

Q: HOW LIKELY DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT SHEELA WILL TURN AGAINST YOU IN COURT?

A: I don't see that she can do that.

Q: SHE CAN TRY, CAN SHE NOT?

A: That too will be very difficult because for three and half years I have been silent. I am a lazy person, I never leave my room except since I have started speaking I come for the press conference here or for the commune meeting in the Mandir. I am so lazy I don't even read newspapers, don't see television. For five years I have not read a book. I must be the most uninformed person in the world.

And I don't know where the office of the foundation is, I don't know where the Sheela's room is, I have never been there. I don't know where the city hall is. Just coming I see a board -- City Hall. That's all that I know about the city hall. I don't go anywhere in the commune.

In the afternoon I go for one hour ride into the forest and that road my people have made simply for me. So for twenty-three hours it simply meditates and waits for me. One hour only it is used without any traffic.

My life is so simple, I don't need anybody, I don't talk anybody, so I don't conceive how any crime can be even thought about me. A man who simply sits in his chair the whole day, sleeping twelve hours. You will not find another man in the world. And people who commit crime don't sleep twelve hours.

Q: EARLIER TODAY YOU SPOKE OF PROVIDING YOUR ATTORNEYS WITH SOME STRATEGYY FOR SETTING UP TENTS AND SUCH. THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK THAT IN FACT YOU MAY HAVE BEEN MORE INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION OF THE COMMUNE THAN YOU SAY RIGHT NOW.

A: No, my attorneys are perfectly capable people. My legal advisers are perfectly capable. If they want any advice from me they can have, otherwise they can do anything they want to do. There is no problem. And in fact I myself am very much excited to face the United States judges and see how much intelligence these people have. I would like to face the Attorney General of Oregon into the Supreme Court of America. Because I feel I am for the American constitution and the Attorney General of Oregon and the Governor Atiya are against it.

So I will enjoy it. I have enjoyed every kind of thing in my life. And even if they jail me for few days that will be really groovy!

INTERVIEW WITH SWAMI VIDEHA, PANORAMA AND EXPRESSO, ITALY
Q: HI. OSHO, SINCE MANY PEOPLE COMING FROM OUTSIDE HAVE SEEN SOMETHING THERE, NOT CLEAR, HOW IS POSSIBLE THAT YOU, OR THE PEOPLE LIVING HERE DIDN'T FEEL THE SAME?

A: For the simple reason, because the people who come from outside don't know that a small minority group of five thousand people living surrounded by hostile people, they only see the few persons having guns to protect the commune, but they don't see the immense hostility in the Oregonians. The moment the hostility disappears, these guns will disappear. And now I think the time has come, the hostility will disappear. The hostility was because of Sheela and her group. Now that group is gone, there is no reason to be hostile.

We love this oasis we have created and we love America, because America is the only possibility for humanity's future. So we will be in every way helpful for all democratic values. Once it becomes known -- that's why I'm talking to all news media -- once it becomes known that I am absolutely in tune with the American constitution, its democratic values, the hostility will disappear and then the guns will disappear automatically, there is no need. I don't like them myself.

But the hostility has to disappear first. Otherwise, in our self-defense we will do everything that is needed. We will not harm anyone. In four years we have not harmed anyone, but we will not allow anybody to harm us either. We are absolutely against violence. To harm someone is violence, to allow someone to harm you is to support violence. We are totally against violence. We will never initiate any violence, but if some fanatics try violence against us, then we are going to retaliate as forcibly as possible. And everybody has the right to defend himself. It is everybody's birthright.

So those people who come, they only see the guns because guns are visible and the hostility around is invisible. So they are not at fault and they are not great seers that they can see the hostility, not very intelligent either to understand that the guns simply indicate that there are people around who can be violent to us, who would like to destroy us. We receive every day phone calls and letters that they would like us to destroy completely, that they would like us to leave Oregon forever, as if Oregon belongs to them.

Q: IT SEEMS YOU TEACH THROUGH EXPERIENCE. THIS HAS BEEN A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR MANY SANNYASIN HERE. AND YOU ALSO SAY THAT PEOPLE ARE FAST ASLEEP... THEY NEED A GREAT SHOCK TO BE AWAKENED. HOW THE SANNYASINS AT THE RANCH WERE HELPED TO GROW BY TRUSTING SHEELA AND HER GANG; HOW THEY HAVE LEARNED; AND WHICH ARE THE GREAT EXPERIENCE YOU WILL CREATE FOR THEM TO WAKE UP?

A: I can create many devices, Sheela was only one, nothing to be worried about that. I can find new ways to wake them up. My whole expertise is to wake people up and to shock them. Now three days before you would never have thought that this shock is coming. So whenever it is needed, I will manage, don't be worried. You will have enough shocks unless you become enlightened!

Q: YOUR MESSAGE THROUGH THIS CHAOS OF THESE DAYS LOOKS MORE CLEAR. WHAT IS IMPRESSING THE PEOPLE IS YOUR COMPASSION, YOUR INNOCENCE AND YOUR CLARITY. THIS CAN BECOME PART OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE HUMANITY, OR STILL WILL BE CORRUPTED BY POWER?

A: No, if the whole humanity can help this innocence, this clarity, this intelligence, it cannot be corrupted by power, that is impossible. Nobody can corrupt me, no power can corrupt me. My sannyasins are still half asleep. I have to wake them up fully, then nobody will be able to take advantage of their innocence.

Innocence has its own power. And when people have a clarity to see things, then you cannot hide any crime and you cannot find any excuses to hide it. This is the way for the whole humanity. My communes are only models. Okay?

Press Conference

Chapter #4
Chapter title: None

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INTERVIEW WITH JIM HYDE, CHANNEL TWO; SCOTT MILLER, KGW TV, PORTLAND; SWAMI ANAND SUBHUTI, THE RAJNEESH TIMES; WALDEN KIRSCH, KGW TV, PORTLAND; SWAMI ANAND VIDEHA, FOR "LATIN-AMERICA COURIER", ITALY; MA VIREN FOR "LOTO-PAYO" (LEUROPAYON?), ITALY.

ISABEL: "OSHO, I HAVE TOLD THE PRESS THAT YOU WILL FIRST MAKE A STATEMENT AND THEN THEY COULD ASK QUESTIONS."

OSHO: I welcome you all. I had to give you the trouble to come here because there has been FBI people, State Police officers, Wasco county police, Attorney General's office people, to investigate the case against Sheela and her fascist gang. I offered them my own interview, four times they gave the appointment, and all the four times they canceled it. There seem to be a certain conspiracy going on. I want to make that conspiracy open and available to the public.

We were cooperating fully. Our police, our sannyasins, were going and revealing facts concerning all kinds of crime that have been committed while I was in isolation and silence. It was really strange that they should not take my interview. They should have taken my interview first. I represent the heart of my whole commune. I live for these people and I will die for these people. Rather than asking me for an interview, they went on postponing and canceling appointments. And the reason was that they were trying to protect the criminals. They were not taking any step against the criminals.

And they were trying to persuade people to betray the commune. They were giving as a bribe, that "We will give you immunity." We were supported them, we were revealing everything on our own accord. We wanted the criminals to be punished. But behind the screen was Attorney General and he was trying a totally different thing. I have known dirty

politicians, but not so dirty as this man.

All kinds of crimes have been committed, murder, attempts to murder many other people, efforts to poison the water system of Dalles, the whole city of innocent people who have done no wrong to you.

Sheela was persuading one of the pilot, that he should take bombs in the airplane and crash it on the Wasco county office and before it crashes, jump out in a parachute to save himself. Because he refused it, as a punishment and as a safety measure that he does not reveal it to anybody else, he was sent to Germany in a very small commune where he was useless, because there is no airport and the commune has no airplanes. What can they do of a pilot? And he was our best pilot. As he heard the news that Sheela and her gang has escaped, he immediately phoned. He has come back and he revealed his story, that "This is what I was asked to do. Because I refused. It was not only a question of my life. It would have destroyed the Wasco county office and it may have destroyed many other houses surrounding it." The quantity of bombs was so much.

We were trying to help FBI and all these other agencies. Why they were afraid to take my interview? The reason was, they wanted to find few people who can protect the criminals and can indicate false names, innocent people, that these are the real criminals, so that the community can by destroyed. One of the FBI person was being heard by sannyasins, he was saying, that "We are going at least to imprison five hundred sannyasins." All those sannyasins who are very essential for the life of the commune, to cripple it. They were not interested at all about the crimes.

One of the street people was murdered by Sheela because she has imported special drugs in tons for all those street people, to keep them drugged till the election day. So whatsoever she says to them, they will do it like a robot, almost in a hallucinatory state. This man by accident was drugged twice. He died on the spot. They simply threw his body out of Rancho Rajneesh without any compassion, humanity, without any feeling what they are doing. The police had found the body, but they could not find even the man's address. He may have come from New York or from anywhere in America. And street people don't have address. They could not figure out what is his name, they could not figure out how he has died, whether he has been murdered or drugged himself too much.

Just now people are coming, because the fear, the terror of Sheela and her gang is finished, they know now they can say the truth. I wanted to cooperate with the government, with the law, but the government has its own designs. Its design is to use the excuse of Sheela's crime who has already gone out of country with twenty co-conspirators. A good chance for them in the name of those twenty people who are out of country -- just blame innocent people and force them into jail.

Not taking my interview was essential to do this, because I was going to reveal everything. First they said, "You cannot record it." I insisted that "It has to be recorded, because in the court you may change." It was a strange situation, as if I was the interrogator and they were the criminals. You cannot take a video tape of it. I insisted.

I said, "We will not release it to the public, we can give you the guarantee, written, but the video will be taken, because we know that you are not worthy of any trust. This video will be a proof that things are totally different and you are presenting before the court different people."

Sheela and her group has bugged my room, my caretaker's room, the new president Hasya's whole house, six rooms, my ex-secretary Laxmi's room, the whole hotel, all the rooms. Even the FBI experts said, that Nixon is left far behind. They have done such a

sophisticated job. He said that, "For one bugging five years of jail." And this woman has bugged so many places that even one thousand years will be not enough! You have solid proofs in your hands. They have found machines in Sheela's room that all telephones from the commune, going outside or coming in were taped, which is very criminal. It is interference into the freedom of the individual and his privacy. Now what solid proofs they need? We have tapes which we have presented to them, we have the mechanism which was being used, we have people who are ready to confess that they were part in it and who others were part in it. But it seemed as if they were not interested in it. Their interest was somewhere else.

One woman came up and said, that, "She does not know exactly, but she suspects that the house belonging to the planning office in Wasco county was burnt by Sheela. Because Sheela told her that at a particular place late in the night you stand there with a car, two sannyasins not in sannyasin clothes will come to you. You need not ask anything, simply take them in and bring them back to Rajneeshpuram. She was a little worried and concerned that what is the matter, what is going on, what is the secret in it? Why they should not be wearing red clothes and why such secrecy? And next day she came to know that the planning office of the Wasco county has been burnt. Now it is very simple. She can indicate those two persons who have escaped with the twenty in Sheela's gang. Sheela has taken her also in her gang so that no proof is left behind. But she felt so guilty that from Seattle she turned back. She said, "I am not going. I am going back to the commune." And she has come back to the commune.

All these things. In Sheela's house literature has been found: How to Murder, How to Kill. Literature on all kinds of poisons. Three persons have been poisoned. My own milk was being poisoned slowly every day. And only now the poor sannyasin who looks after the cows has opened his mouth, that "Every night Puja used to come to mix something. I was not aware that this is poison. I thought it is something herbal, must be for your health." Certainly it was for my health!

Seeing all these things I became aware of one thing that has happened in India. And now I am absolutely certain that Sheela murdered her own first husband. He was sick. He had cancer of lungs and the doctors had said that he cannot live more than two years. When he came to me he was really in despair, death was so close. I said to him, that "Death comes to everybody. You are fortunate that you know when it is coming. You have some uniqueness about your death. You can use these two years in such a way that only your body will die and you will live forever."

And he started meditating, and a strange phenomenon happened. Two years passed, four years passed, six years passed. He came back to America. He was American Jew. He went to the doctors, they could not believe. They thought that he must be dead by now, long ago. They said, "It is something miraculous. You are not supposed to live! What have you been doing."

He said, "I have been meditating and I am feeling healthier and I am getting better."

But once in a while he used to have attacks and when he had the attack, oxygen has to be given to him. Sheela was continuously harassing him. All this I have come to know now. People who had lived in the same house in India have revealed to me that Sheela was harassing him continuously. And because he was sick she was having a love affair with another man. And that was really disgusting. Her husband was dying in the same room and she will bring the other man to make love in the same room in front the husband and naturally he will throw a tantrum. And one day it became so much that she stopped the oxygen. She took out the tube. The poor man died in immense suffering and torture,

suffocating.

I did hear the rumor, even in India, that something in mysterious about the death. But there was no solid proof. The man was already burnt. There was no witness. But now seeing Sheela's all these acts here I feel certain that she has killed her husband too.

When I left India Sheela had burnt two bare houses just to show that all my literature has been burned by somebody. Nobody would have told this if Sheela was here. People were afraid that they will be killed or thrown out of the commune. Many have been thrown out of the commune. Whoever was a rebel was condemned as negative and he has to leave. And because I was in isolation and in silence and I had no connection except Sheela, so even if people wanted to inform me about something it was impossible. They could not phone. Every phone was taped.

All the guards on my house have just revealed that they were told not to have any contact with the people who lived with me, my physician, my dentist, my seamstress, my cleaners... almost twenty people lived in the house... my kitchen people, my gardeners. The guards were instructed, that "You have not to talk to anybody, you have not even to smile at anybody, you have not to see eye to eye to anybody. Even if they wave you are not to answer." And that's how it has been going on. And it seems she had put those guards saying to them that they are for my safety.

But just today all the keys of my house have been found in Sheela's room. Now what those keys were doing in her room? She has made a lock into my sitting room which connects the bedroom. I sleep alone there and she wanted to have the key from the outside. The lock is from the outside and she wanted to have the key. It was only because of my caretaker. Her insistence that the key cannot be given to anybody because things that have come to light, if she can poison my milk, if she can bug my room, if she can try to kill my physician three times, she could have tried to kill me. And the best way would have been any night. Guards were hers, I don't know even their names, I don't know even their faces, because they are on the roof, I cannot see them. She could have entered into my room any moment, given me an injection. It was so easy. She wanted to keep that thing available.

One should be wondering why she would like to kill me. Because three and half years being in full power she became a power maniac. Now her only fear was, if I start speaking again, then her face from the television screen will disappear. Then she will not be a celebrity. Then from radios her voice will disappear, from newspapers her name will disappear and it is really difficult for someone whose ego has become blown big, then suddenly to become nobody.

She was nobody. She was just a waitress in a hotel in America before she came to me. Here she saw power in her hands, millions of dollars in her hands. We have put two hundred million dollars to create the commune. She has stolen money out of it. Her old secretary is dying with cancer in California. Death sometimes makes people reveal truth. She has written me a letter yesterday, that Sheela has stolen forty-three million dollars from European communes which were bound to reach here, but they never came here. They went into a account in Switzerland. When you get so much money, so much power, and my people love me and she was using my name for everything.

Even very intelligent people proved very gullible for the simple reason, she found their weakness, their love for me. She will simply say it is for Osho's sake, it is for Osho's security, it is how Osho wants it. And people were ready to do it. She exploited the whole situation and committed all kinds of crime.

They were trying to culture AIDS virus. One wonders for what. Two persons from the

commune who have been found by Sheela's assistant, Puja, who is a medical person, as positive confirmed AIDS patients... when Sheela left we let them tested again outside. Both are negative. Strange, where the virus has disappeared? It has disappeared with those twenty people? It seems their blood before sending for test was mixed with AIDS virus. And the reason seems to be that those two persons were just experimental the way scientists use guinea pigs, rats, they were using human beings. Perhaps there was a desire that if they cannot rule the commune, then they will destroy it.

Just the other day in Patanjali lake, five hundred big fishes, beautiful fish, suddenly died. It seems poison has been dumped there. Otherwise there seems to be no reason for those fish to die simultaneously.

I wanted to say all these things to FBI and all other state government agencies and wanted them to ask me, interrogate me, so I can go into details. But they are not interested in the criminals. Their interest is that somehow the criminals has escaped, it is good. Now find people who have done small things, for example, this girl who has driven two people who burned the planning office, now give her immunity and make her say that who were those two people, any two people they choose.

That's what they are trying to do with K.D. K.D. has not gone with Sheela's group, he is hiding in California and trying to make a deal. He is a politician. He is trying to make a deal with the Attorney General, that "If you give me immunity, then whatever you say, I will say."

I would like the press to support this small minority against the whole dirty political regime. Help so that real criminals can be caught and should not be protected and make it sure that no innocent people are harassed. That is the desire of the Attorney General. That's why they never wanted to interview me. I wanted them first to interview me before the press so the whole public knows. What is the fear? I should be afraid. Why you should be afraid? They refused that, they refused video, they refused taking a tape and finally, they refused that they don't want to take my interview at all. And all this time they were continuously enquiring the Attorney General on the phone, for everything. To cancel the interview or not, to let them have it on the video or not.

It is your duty and responsibility to expose this dirty state of affairs. We are ready to support the law and the constitution and we are ready to help them catch all those twenty people, because we are keeping an eye on them, we know where they are. We have sannyasins all over the world. When they were in Zurich, Zurich sannyasins were looking after them. When they went into Germany, German sannyasins were looking after them, watching. Now they are in France. Wherever they will go, my people are there. But FBI does not seem to be interested even to inform the Interpol that these people have committed crimes, they should be brought to America.

Perhaps if Sheela comes back... or perhaps FBI people are already making deals with those criminals there, that they are not criminals. They are capable of making deals and can give them immunity and then any innocent person can be imprisoned, for ten years, for twenty years, for his whole life.

I have called the press just to make it clear to the people that it should not be allowed to happen. And when we are helping and cooperating, they don't want our cooperation. Just now I have heard that because I have called the press conference and I am exposing them, they are packing their suitcases and they will escape. Strange, you belong to the federal intelligence department, you belong to the state police, you belong to the county police, such cowards. You cannot face a press conference. Rather than packing their suits they should have been here, because they have been here for seven days. And we have been their hosts and we have

been helping them in every way. We gave them our hospitality and they are giving us their criminality.

It is somehow a psychological fact that the criminals and the people who belong to the police are not very different kind of people. Just criminals employed by the government become FBI, KGB, and criminals who are unemployed, those poor people serve in jails or electrocuted or given death sentences, but I think both belong to the same category of mind.
If you have any questions, you can ask.

INTERVIEW WITH JIM HYDE, CHANNEL TWO.
QUESTION: HOW WOULD YOU CONVINCE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL SEE AND HERE THIS VIDEOTAPE THAT YOU ARE TELLING THE TRUTH AND SHEELA IS LYING?

ANSWER: Simple. Why she has escaped? If she is not a criminal, she should have been here and faced me. She did not even come to say goodbye to me. People who don't commit crime don't escape like that. And all the twenty people are involved in all these cases. So tell her, if she is innocent and I am criminal, then face me, just stand before me. She thinks she is brave, so tell her to be brave and come back. Why you are escaping here and there, hiding in Black Forest in Germany. What is that is going to do? How long you can hide? And if the police is not going to take the action, then my people will take the action! We can wait for few days and see what these idiots do. Otherwise we are capable enough to bring all those twenty back here.

Q: WOULD YOU RATHER THE INVESTIGATORS, WHO'VE BEEN INVITED, GO AWAY NOW? HAVE YOU GIVEN UP ON THE SYSTEM?

A: First they have to take my interview before the press. Now that is an absolute condition on which there will be no compromise. Before I was ready to give the interview in privacy and keep the video private till the case is over. But now, no.

INTERVIEW WITH SCOTT MILLER, KGW TV, PORTLAND.
Q: THE PERSON WHO IS BEING INVESTIGATED IS NOT USUALLY ALLOWED TO RECORD OR VIDEOTAPE THOSE INTERVIEWS AND CERTAINLY, THESE INVESTIGATIONS NEVER OCCUR IN FRONT OF THE PRESS. WHY SHOULD YOU BE DIFFERENT?

A: This is not an ordinary crime. It is a series of criminal acts and it has been committed in my name! So I have every authority to force the investigators, because my name has been used, misused. Advantage has been taken of my name. And when I am willing, what they are going to lose? Unless there is some conspiracy that they will not be able to manage if my statements become public. But it does not matter, if they don't make it public, I will make them public. I am making them public. Who can prevent me?

Q: ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO TELL THE

INVESTIGATORS HOW TO INVESTIGATE? OR TO TELL THE INVESTIGATORS WHO TO ARREST?

A: Certainly. The government is the servant of the people! They are not our masters.

Q: YOU SAID THAT YOU WON'T TALK UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, ARE YOU STILL RECOMMENDING THAT YOUR SANNYASINS COOPERATE WITH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES?

A: They are cooperating.

Q: DO YOU WANT THEM TO KEEP COOPERATING?

A: This is cooperation.

Q: TOMORROW, DO YOU WANT YOUR SANNYASINS TO KEEP TALKING TO THE INVESTIGATORS?

A: I will not. It is finished. Cooperation is finished! And if they don't pack now, we will pack them out.

INTERVIEW WITH SWAMI ANAND SUBHUTI, THE RAJNEESH TIMES
Q: SORRY. DO YOU THINK THE FBI COULD HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR A SERIES OF COUNTER-ALLEGATIONS FROM SHEELA?

A: They should bring Sheela here. Why they are waiting for? Because there is every possibility she may be killed by the other nineteen criminals. I am afraid of that, because I have seen today the interview she has given. She looks absolutely drugged. I am afraid that she may be killed. Because all the remaining ones will be free if she is finished. Then the main criminal is gone. The main source is finished. And these people are taking so long time which is not needed at all. She should be caught immediately with all those people. And to my sannyasins I would like to say, now no cooperation. Nobody goes to report anything unless my interview is taken with my condition, our cooperation is finished. Now they can go to hell! And as far as Sheela and her nineteen colleagues are concerned, we will make our own arrangements.

INTERVIEW WITH WALDEN KIRSCH, KGW TV, PORTLAND.
Q: GOOD EVENING. WE HAVE BEEN MEETING LIKE THIS FOR A WEEK NOW....

A: You are behaving like FBI! (Osho is laughing)

Q: EACH TIME THE STORIES THAT WE HEAR BECOME MORE AND MORE EXTRAVAGANT. RIGHT NOW AS WE SPEAK, THERE ARE A CERTAIN NUMBER OF SANNYASINS HERE IN THIS ROOM, WHO DON'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

A: What do you want to believe them? Who are the people?

Q: THEY'RE OUT THERE, SIR.

A: I will show. Raise the hands who believe in me and say three times, Yes!

AUDIENCE: Yes! Yes! Yes!

A: Now you ask your people to raise their hands and say no!

Q: I'LL LET YOU DO THAT.

A: Just come here.... Is anybody there who can stand for this man? Have pity on him! Just look behind.

Q: YOU SAY IN VARIOUS WAYS THAT YOU ASK YOUR SANNYASINS NOT TO BELIEVE YOU. YOU ASK THEM TO TRUST IN YOU BUT NOT TO BELIEVE YOU.

A: That's right!

Q: WHY SHOULD THEY BELIEVE THE FACTS WHICH YOU'VE BEEN LAYING OUT FOR THE PAST WEEK?

A: Because they know it as a fact.

Q: WHY SHOULD THEY BELIEVE YOU NOW?

A: They are not believing ME. They know the facticity of what I am saying...

Q: WHY SHOULD THEY BELIEVE YOUR VERSION AND NOT THE OTHER VERSION WHEN YOU TELL YOUR FOLLOWERS NOT TO BELIEVE THE WORDS YOU SAY?

A: They are not believing ME! They are believing the facticity of what I am saying. If it is a fact, you said that there are few people, you cannot make them stand. You cannot stand yourself rightly.

Q: HAVE YOU TOLD ANY LIES THE PAST WEEK? HAVE YOU TOLD ANY LIES AT ALL?

A: Never! Why should I say a lie? I have been trying to say the truth for thirty years and yet I have not been able to say it.

Q: IT SOUNDS AS THOUGH A SHOWDOWN IS INEVITABLE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS HERE. AT THIS POINT YOU ARE TELLING YOUR FOLLOWERS NOT TO SPEAK TO ANYBODY UNLESS THEY SPEAK WITH YOU FIRST. IS THAT CORRECT?

A: I am simply saying that those people are trying a conspiracy to destroy the commune. And I will not allow anybody to destroy the commune.

Q: YOU SAID A MOMENT AGO THAT NONE OF YOUR SANNYASINS SHOULD GRANT ANY INTERVIEWS TO ANY INVESTIGATORS UNLESS THOSE INVESTIGATORS HAVE TAKEN YOUR INTERVIEW FIRST.

A: Certainly!

Q: AND UNTIL YOUR INTERVIEW HAPPENS YOU'RE ORDERING YOUR SANNYASINS TO SPEAK TO NONE OF THESE INVESTIGATORS.

A: Just let me repeat clearly to you.

They have been investigating up to today and we have been cooperating with them in every possible way. And they have been trying to exploit our cooperation. Rather than being thankful and grateful that we are cooperating, otherwise they have no way of finding the criminals and the crimes. It is only by our cooperation they can find the criminals and the crimes. They should be grateful.

They are not grateful, but they are being tricky. They have been trying behind the doors to bribe few people who have committed some small crime, that, "We will give you immunity." And you just tell what we want. This cannot be done. This is not cooperation. This is exploitation. And their desire is not against the criminals at all. Otherwise the first step, because we have given them all evidence, they have found all the bugging, they have taken all the wires, all the bugging, photographs, everything, we have delivered all machines. Now we think perhaps it was not a right step because these people perhaps may destroy all those evidences. If they want to protect the criminals and destroy the commune, from today there will be no cooperation. Now they will have to understand it that no conspiracy can be tolerated.

They have to take my interview before the national press, and only after that my sannyasins will cooperate. Otherwise not.

INTERVIEW WITH SWAMI ANAND VIDEHA, FOR "LATIN-AMERICA COURIER", ITALY

Q: OSHO, WE HAD A WATERGATE ONE WEEK AGO, NOW WE HAVE A DOUBLE WATERGATE. WHO DO YOU SUSPECT IS BEHIND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL? ANY GUESS?

A: Attorney General is my guess. He is behind this Watergate. He is trying to protect the criminals and punishing the innocent. The idea of putting five hundred sannyasins behind the jail, into the jail, is out of a very criminal mind. And when we are supporting in every way, when we are withdrawing every hostility that Sheela and her group has created between our commune and Oregon... For example, we are changing City of Rajneesh back to the old name, Antelope. We are removing our police forces from there and we are ready to sell all the properties that belonged to the foundation to the people of Antelope, or anybody who wants to purchase, at the same price as we purchased them. We have improved them, renovated them, we have put money into them, they are already double of the cost and we will be giving them half of the price. And we want to move out of Antelope because we don't want to have anything to do with politics. It was Sheela's trip, it is finished with her going from here.

We want to be left alone here, we don't want any hostility, any antagonism with anybody. And we will give the proof of it by changing the name to Antelope, be removing our police force from there and we will remove our people as the properties are sold. Now, it is the time for all the Oregonians who were showing so much love for Antelope to purchase those properties. Now they will know who is their friend. It is one thing to talk and make great slogans that it is better to be dead than red, now it is time to show it, that you really intend. So they should purchase all the properties. We can vacate in a single day. Just they should purchase all the properties the way we have purchased from them.

Our people don't want to live there. Who wants to live in that third-rate one hundred year old houses? We have enough houses, fully air-conditioned, with all modern facilities. Our sannyasins want to come back home. Sheela was forcing them to go there. It was done all without my knowledge. Otherwise it would not have happened at all because I am absolutely apolitical.

I am not even against politics. Because to be against politics becomes politics. I am apolitical, neither for nor against, I simply want that the politics does not exist at all. That all the politicians are dead.

Q: YOU SAY THAT SHEELA STOLEN FORTY-THREE MILLION DOLLARS. THERE IS ANY REAL PROOF THAT HAS HAPPEN AND WHY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNE DID NOT TAKE DIRECT ACTION WITH INTERPOL IN THIS CASE?

A: Just now when I was coming here I have heard Sheela's husband is in the prison.

Q: YOU MEAN THE LAST HUSBAND?

A: And that too you have to understand. Sheela's first husband she killed. Sheela's second

husband Jayananda is an American, before divorcing him she married a third husband who is Swiss just to be in Switzerland because from escaping from here where she was to go? So she married Deepo and then she became aware that this is a crime, she is committing bigamy. So she had to rush to a Himalayan small kingdom Nepal, because in Nepal, it is so poor, in small villages you can bribe any magistrate and get any certificate, any divorce certificate or anything you want. So she has brought from Nepal a divorce certificate back dated to avoid bigamy.

But the third husband is in the jail. He is in the jail because he also tried on Sheela's instructions to take the money out of the bank. It is not those forty-three million, it is another account of the Zurich commune. The money belongs to the Zurich commune. Deepo was one of the trustees and he has taken the money for his personal use, the whole money, and closed the account. I don't know exactly right now how much money he has taken, but from all over the world news is reaching. One woman from Geneva who had been my sannyasin long... Sheela came into my contact. She has informed that Sheela's whole business was selling drugs, particular heroin. And while she was going to Europe the excuse was visiting the communes, but the reality was heroin. She has been doing the business in selling gold also. I have called that sannyasins to come here, because she will be an eye witness, because Sheela and she were both very close friends. She knows every detail, that how much money she has got out of drugs, how much money out of gold, how much money she has taken out of the communes.

We will wait and see how capable American government, FBI and its other agencies are capable. If they cannot manage such a small thing, then forget about Soviet Union.

Q: BUT TILL NOW THERE IS NO DIRECT ACTION TOWARDS SHEELA FOR THE FORTY-THREE MILLION DOLLARS STOLEN IN EUROPE WITH INTERPOL THERE?

A: I have called the secretary of Sheela who is dying of cancer in California to come here and expose the whole thing clearly. That from where she has got those forty-three million dollars, in which bank they are, what is the account number... I am certain there is money. For one reason because Sheela has told me many times that, "I have a surprise for you."
And I always asked, "What surprise and when..."

Then one day she said, that "Now I cannot contain it any more, we have opened a bank account in Switzerland, in Sheela and Savita's name, but it is for me. In case you have to leave America, we will make a beautiful place and a small commune in Switzerland."

I asked her, that "If the bank account is for me, at least I am entitled to know how much money is there, what is the number of the bank account, and what is the name." That was never told to me. I have asked it almost half a dozen time.

Even the last day Savita left, I had told Hasya that, "Ask Savita about the bank account number." In front of me she promised that she will give the bank account number and every detail to Hasya, but she never gave, and escaped. So there is certainly a bank account, how much it is we will figure it out. They cannot cheat my sannyasins, they will repent badly.

But we will wait for this FBI capacity and if we see that these people are impotent, then we will do things on our own. We can catch hold of those people right now! We know everybody, where he is. And we wanted to inform these people but they don't want to have my interview.

Q: YOU SAY YOUR NAME HAS BEEN USED TO DO ALL THESE CRIMINAL ACTS. YOU THINK YOU CAN FILE, OR YOU WILL FILE SHEELA DIRECTLY FOR USING YOUR NAME FOR THIS?

A: Certainly. She has misused her power. She had my power of attorney. She was my secretary and I had given her all power and she has misused it for doing all kinds of crime. She will have to come back and she will have to ask apology to each of the sannyasin of the commune, because she has misbehaved with each of the sannyasins. She has harassed these people.

You will not believe that even the Mayor of Rajneeshpuram was punished by Sheela and the punishment was that "For few days you simply go on digging ditches. This is the punishment from Osho." I would like K.D. to come back, there is no need to hide in California. Just come back here and expose everything that you know and ask forgiveness from these people and we will fight for you. You expose to the government, to the court, about the whole gang and we will make every effort to get immunity for you. In fact the American constitution is in every way favorable, there is no problem in it. He will get immunity, he has not done any crime himself, he has been only in the group. His only crime is that he did not expose the group, but for which immunity is not difficult. So if he sees somewhere on the television screen, he should come back immediately without any fear. Nobody is going to punish him and he will never be told to dig ditches.

But that was one of the methods of the fascist group to punish people, to humiliate them, to force them to do things, otherwise they are not surrendering, they are not trusting, and all in my name. In fact, I can go to the court that my name has been misused and under my name's cover all these crimes have been committed. And I will protect my innocent sannyasins who have not done anything. Okay?

INTERVIEW WITH MA VIREN FOR "LOTO-PAYO" (LEUROPAYON?), ITALY.
Q: OSHO, YOU SAID FEW DAYS AGO THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAYBE WANTS THIS PART OF OREGON, THIS DESERT, FOR NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTS. WOULD THIS ENOUGH REASON FOR THEY TO CONSPIRATE AGAINST THE COMMUNE?

A: Any reason may be there, but this commune is going to remain here. Their reason for nuclear experiments is against man, against life, against everything that is valuable. It is not worth anything. If it was worth anything, we would have vacated this place immediately.

Q: BUT THIS IS TRUE IN ABSOLUTE, IT IS NOT TRUE AS FAR AS POWER IS CONCERNED. I MEAN THEY ALWAYS WIN!

A: It is not so easy! Just because we are five thousand sannyasins here does not mean that we don't have power. do you think only nuclear weapons have power? In fact, nuclear weapons have no power at all anymore. What power they have? Their power is that they can create another Hiroshima here? But that will destroy the whole America's image. Their democracy, their constitution, their values, and they will prove just hypocrites. They cannot do any harm to this commune because my people are around the earth and everywhere there

will be protest against it if any harm is being done. Then no American embassy all over the world will be left intact! I know also how to deal with these idiots. Our people can also hijack American planes if worse comes to worse! Then no American agency in any country can function. I have enough sannyasins everywhere. So don't be worried about power. No need to be worried.

Press Conference

Chapter #5
Chapter title: None

30 September 1985 om in Rajneeshmandir

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INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD WAGNER, CBS NETWORK; SCOTT MILLER, KGW TV, PORTLAND; BOB CHASE, KEX RADIO, PORTLAND; SALLY HILL, ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND; MIKE HOUSICAL, GLOBE, USA; DAILY TELEGRAPH, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA; AND STAR, LONDON, UK; LINDA KRAMER, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER; JERRY THOMPSON, CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION; MIKE ZEILINZINGER, NIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS; JOHN MCCOY, SEATTLE POST INTELLIGENCER; ERIC FOLLET, STERN MAGAZINE; BILL HARLEM, DENVER POST, COLORADO.

ISABEL: OSHO, THE PRESS UNDERSTANDS YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE A STATEMENT FIRST AND THEN THEY COULD ASK QUESTIONS.

OSHO: Beloved Friends,

I welcome you all on this historical event. For the first time in the whole history of mankind a religion has died. I have never wanted it to be born in the first place. But because I was in silence and isolation a gang of fascists managed to create it. It was absolutely necessary that it should be completely destroyed. I am against all religions, because they have done only harm to humanity. They have given you nothing except the disease AIDS -- that is their great contribution. Their insistence on celibacy is the cause of all sexual perversions in the world.

They have divided humanity into Hinduism, Mohammedanism, Christianity, Judaism... there are three hundred religions on the earth. Because of these religions humanity cannot be one. No child is born Hindu or Christian. But these conditioned, forced, in every possible way to adopt a religion of their parents. This is a great crime against human beings, because they are not given the chance to enquire into reality: what is the truth? Even before they have

asked the question they are being supplied with the answers, ready-made answers. There whole life they will go on carrying those ready-made answers like parrots and deep down their ignorance will remain the same -- there will be no transformation.

Belief is the enemy of truth. Faith is poison to every enquiry. Doubt is innocence and it is not given to you by anybody; you bring it with you, you are born with it. Doubt means questioning, it means quest, it means individual enquiry. All the religions are based on belief systems, that's why they have crippled human mind. They have kept humanity in a retarded state. Science is based on doubt. Just within three hundred years science has given so much to humanity, that in ten thousand years religion have not been able to do anything comparable to it.

I hate the word "Ism"... and because I was silent Ma Anand Sheela managed to compile a book "Rajneeshism". That was not my book. I have never read it -- the question of writing does not arise. And today you have seen that is has been cremated. It is an event of great rejoicing, because I don't want to belong to all those criminals who have given you holy books -- no book is holy. All books are just books, either they are good or bad, well written or not well written. How a book can be holy. But once you call a book holy, you become blind. Just look in "Holy Bible", there are five hundred pages of sheer pornography. This is your holy book. And this is the book kept in the courts; and you have to take oath on a pornographic book? I don't want to add anything into this ugly literature. My books are simply books -- just as I am simply a human being.

I am not a savior... that is so humiliating to human beings. I am not a messenger; I am not a prophet. Nobody has ever been a savior. Jesus could not save himself even. And what guts, what nerve... he calls himself the shepherd and the whole humanity: sheep. And there are millions of people who don't feel even insulted.

To what degradation human mind has fallen? Don't you have any pride of being human? I want to restore your humanity to you and the only way is that I should not be in any special category. I am amongst you, just like you an ordinary human being. With a little difference, very little difference: you are asleep, I am awake. It is my own fault. I am not condemning you. If I can't sleep, whose fault it is. Not only that I am awake, I go on trying other people to wake up. The reason is: because I have known sleep and I have known all the sweet dreams and all the nightmares, but I have also known the beauties and the blessings of awakening. And I would like to share my experience to everybody....

Hence I am not your leader, you are not my follower. Just being friends is enough, more than enough. Perhaps only in friendship something can transpire between me and you. Only in loving sharing perhaps you may wake up.

I don't have any catechism, no theology, nothing for you to believe in. I have taken away all psychological nonsense: I have taken away God from you, because that is nothing but a small child's desire for the protection of the father; it is retardedness. Only retarded people believe in a God; only greedy people believe in heaven; only cowards, people full of fear and paranoia believe in hell. I have taken all those things from you: there is no God, no heaven, no hell.

I want to share only one thing with you, which does not make you a religion, but it certainly makes you a new kind of man. I call that methodology: meditation. It is an inward journey. You have to go alone on it. The crowd cannot go with you. As you go deeper within yourself... just by witnessing your thoughts, your emotions, your feelings a tremendous mutation happens: thoughts stop, emotions disappear, feelings evaporate, all that is left is pure awareness. And that awareness is your flowering, your ultimate reach beyond which

there is nothing. You have arrived home.

Certainly one who reaches to this peak he will have many qualities. Religiousness will be one of those qualities. So you will not be a religion, but you will have a quality of religiousness. What do I mean by religiousness? A gratitude to existence, a love affair with the flowers, with the birds on the wing, with the sunrise, with the sunset, with the trees, with animals, with people. This love affair I call religiousness. From this day you should not think in terms of being a religion, but in terms of being religious: a quality of love, gratitude, a sensitivity for beauty, for music, for poetry and all that makes you ecstatic... the dance comes on its own, the song arises on its own and it is an individual approach. You are not to follow somebody elses footsteps, because you are not going outside, you are going inside yourself, where you will not find any footsteps, because nobody can enter in your interiority, in your subjectivity.

Do this because just my silence and isolation gave Anand Sheela and her fascist gang to exploit you. I am going to destroy everything so history never repeats again. I will not bealways with you -- one day I will have to go. Before that I want to destroy every possibility. I don't want any popes behind me, any high priestess, any Ayatollah Khomeini... no, I want to leave you alone, so content and fulfilled that you don't need anybody between you and the truth of existence.

Hence I have withdrawn red cloths. Now all the colors of rainbow are your colors. You can use any color, so you can mix with the wider humanity more easily. And when there are so many colors, why get addicted to one color. But if you love it and if you want to keep it, it is up to you. It is your freedom. You need not wear mala with my picture in the locket, no. You have to go inwards, the mala will be left out. Somebody may steal it, damage it, there is no need of it.

But, it is up to you. I don't want to enforce anything on anybody. You can use mala if you like, if you can use whenever you like, you can stop using whenever you like. The only thing that you have to remember is don't forget that life comes to its fulfillment only when you have reached to your innermost center. That is the only truth. Everything else is nonessential. The only essential thing is to realize your being, your silence, your reality. And for that no belief is needed.

Sheela has created a hostility. That's a simple methodology of all fascist minded people. Create hostility in the neighbors, that makes you dependent on the leaders, because you are afraid. The leaders promise you they will protect you against the enemies. This becomes a great opportunity for them. Now we have to drop all hostility completely. Nobody is our enemy, we are not against anybody and anything that Sheela has done in three and half years, we have to undo it.

City of Rajneesh has to become again Antelope. I have advised the council that, "Please change that name." Antelope was perfectly beautiful name, and why hurt people who had lived there for generations? And I have offered to Oregonians that if they want they can purchase all the properties belonging to sannyasins and we will vacate Antelope completely, because we have enough land here, three times bigger than New York. So what do we need poor Antelope for?

And just before coming to your press conference, I was delayed in an interview with Attorney General Frohnmeyer. I have told him that now, there is no point in your case against the city of Rajneeshpuram. His only argument was that religion and state are being mixed. Now there is no religion! So while you were burning Rajneeshism, the book, in the crematorium you have burned also poor Frohnmeyer. Now there is no point in it. If religion

itself is not there, the city becomes immediately legal.
Any questions?

INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD WAGNER, CBS NETWORK.
Q: COULD YOU EXPLAIN WHY YOU MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT RELIGION HAS GIVEN HUMANITY NOTHING EXCEPT THE DISEASE AIDS? I DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT.

A: You are right. It has given many more things too.

Q: FOR INSTANCE?

A: It has given a divided humanity, it has given thousands of wars, bloodshed, murders, burning of living people, it has certainly given many more things.

Q: BUT SPECIFICALLY, HOW HAS RELIGION CONTRIBUTED TO AIDS?

A: Two reasons. One, every religion propagates that celibacy is something spiritual, which is absolute nonsense. Celibacy is unnatural. And there has never been anybody who was celibate unless he was impotent. Your body functions according to its own program. It does not know that you are a Catholic monk. It goes on creating male sperms same way, whether you are Catholic monk or not. What you are going to do with those sperms? The natural repressed is bound to find some perverted way and religions managed monks to live together, nuns to live together, and they are not to meet each other. That was full opportunity for monks to be homosexuals. Homosexuality is a contribution of religions and AIDS is the ultimate outcome of homosexuality. So it is a long chain.

Q: WHAT CAME FIRST, RELIGION OR AIDS?

A: Religion.

Q: BUT WE ALL UNDERSTAND THAT AIDS IS A VIRUS. HOW CAN A VIRUS BE CAUSED BY A RELIGION?

A: Homosexuality can be caused by religion and homosexuality can cause the virus.

INTERVIEW WITH SCOTT MILLER, KGW TV, PORTLAND.
Q: IF IN FACT YOU DON'T HAVE A RELIGION GOING HERE, HOW CAN YOUR FOUNDATION STILL CLAIM TAX EXEMPT STATUS AND WON'T THAT CREATE A PROBLEM FOR YOU GETTING DONATIONS IN THE FUTURE?

A: The foundation is to spread meditation which creates a new kind of religiousness, although it is not a religion. It is far better than all the religions. It claims to be a charitable tax exempt status. In fact, no religion should be given any tax exempt status... because homosexuality is not a charity.

Q: DOES WHAT YOU SAY INCLUDE THEN YOUR FOUNDATION HERE? DO YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU SHOULD BE GIVING UP YOUR TAX EXEMPT STATUS?

A: It is not a religion; it is simply a religiousness. It should be given, it is charitable. It is not going to give AIDS to humanity.

Q: I GUESS I HEAR YOU SAYING THAT YOU ARE A RELIGION OR YOU ARE RELIGIOUS FOR THE...

A: ... it is totally different.

Q: YOU ARE RELIGIOUS WHEN IT COMES TO TAX PURPOSES...

A: No!

Q: ... BUT YOU'RE NOT RELIGIOUS WHEN IT COMES TO...

A: No! I am not saying that...

Q: ... SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.

A: ... you are misunderstanding me.

Q: SET ME STRAIGHT THEN!

A: So try to understand. I am saying that I am not a religion. We are meditators, we don't belong to Christianity, to Hinduism, to any organized religion. And we don't have any organized religion either. We don't have any beliefs which make a religion. Meditation is a scientific method, but the scientific method can contribute to human growth immensely. It can give you more peace, more silence, more joy and ultimately a feeling of deathlessness.

I call this experience religiousness. And I will claim tax exempt status for it.

Q: I GRANT YOU THERE IS A VERY FINE LINE THERE, DO YOU THINK...

A: I am going to fight for it.

Q: DO YOU THINK THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE WILL SEE THAT FINE LINE THAT YOU'VE JUST DESCRIBED TO ME?

A: I will see. I will see how much brains they have.

INTERVIEW WITH BOB CHASE, KEX RADIO, PORTLAND.
Q: WITH REGARD TO THE INVESTIGATION THAT IS UNDERWAY AT RAJNEESHPURAM, I'M WONDERING IF YOU HAVE SUBPOENAED TO OFFER ANY TESTIMONY WITH REGARD TO THE INVESTIGATION?

A: I have not received any subpoena. In fact I have asked the investigators that I want to be interviewed and four times they gave me the appointment and just fifteen minutes before they informed it is canceled. They seem to be afraid, just taking my interview. I have not received any subpoena. I would love! I want to see your investigators, because I also want to know what is their depth. I can also investigate them. I am waiting for their subpoena; I will enjoy it!

Up to now they have proved very coward. Four times on my request they gave the appointment, FBI, state police, Attorney General's office, county police, all top people are here. And they could not take a single person's interview. What kind of people you have got? And tell them, if they don't subpoena me I am going to subpoena them!

INTERVIEW WITH SALLY HILL, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, PORTLAND.
Q: OSHO, AT A PREVIOUS NEWS CONFERENCE I ASKED YOU WHETHER OREGONIANS AND YOUR DISCIPLES COULD EVER COEXIST PEACEFULLY AND YOU ANSWERED, "NEVER!" YET IT SEEMS THAT THESE OVERTURES YOU'RE MAKING TO OREGONIANS AND THOSE IN THE FORMER CITY OF ANTELOPE SEEM TO HEAD ALONG THOSE LINES. CAN YOU SPEAK TO THAT PLEASE?

A: That time you had escaped the moment I said never, without even waiting that what I am going to say. Never, you thought you had understood my meaning. It was a single word, it has many implications. You need some lessons in journalism.

First let me make you aware that I had said never for coexistence, because coexistence is a political word, and I hate politics! Secondly, coexistence means you remain hostile to each other but somehow because fate has managed you to be together, so you accept each other unwillingly, just the way America and Soviet 'nion coexist.
I wanted to say that day also, but when I looked I saw you had already left.

Q: I WENT TO GET MY NOTEBOOK.

A: I mean... coexistence never, because I want one existence. Coexistence is between enemies. I want one existence. We are already four year old Americans, somebody may be hundred year old, somebody may be two hundred year old, we are the latest ones, the most fresh and young. We want one existence. I had refused the coexistence.

Q: HOW DO YOU INTEND TO GO ABOUT ATTAINING THIS ONE EXISTENCE?

A: Because I am withdrawing everything that Sheela has created as a rift. City of Rajneesh was one of the basic rifts. I am changing it again into Antelope, I am offering all the properties that we have purchased from Antelope people back to them, or to anybody who wants to purchase, and we are ready to move from out of Antelope. So Antelope belongs to Antelope people, it is their city and whatever they want to do they can do.

We are ready to drop all the cases against the state if the state understands a simple thing that now there is no religion, they should drop their case of mixing religion with state. We will withdraw all our cases against them. These are the steps that we would like to take. We have put in this desert two hundred million dollars to change it into an oasis.

If the state is helpful, and we don't want any illegal help, we can change this whole desert into an oasis. We can make it one of the most beautiful holiday spot, a tourist center which will help Oregon's economy immensely. We are ready to do everything.

INTERVIEW WITH MIKE HOUSICAL, THE GLOBE, USA; THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA; AND THE STAR, LONDON, UK
Q: SIR, YOU TALKED EARLIER ABOUT HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE THESE PEOPLE WHEN YOU FINALLY DECIDE TO LEAVE THEM. HAVE YOU DECIDED IF YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR DAYS HERE OR HAVE YOU PLANS TO TRAVEL ON?

A: No, I am going to be here.

Q: FOREVER.

A: Forever. Green card or no green card, I am going to be here forever!

Q: YOU DON'T HAVE PLANS TO OPEN ANY OTHER COMMUNES IN ANY OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

A: Yes, I have all over the world so many communes, almost in every country.

But the people come here for three months, four months, to stay with me, and then go back. I am going to remain here. If Oregon or American government wants me to travel then they should issue tomorrow my greencard. Then perhaps I may start thinking of traveling!
But it is not a promise -- I am saying, perhaps.

INTERVIEW WITH LINDA KRAMER, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER.
Q: REGARDING YOUR COMMENTS ON AIDS, SHOULD PRACTICING HOMOSEXUALS LEAVE THE COMMUNE?

A: We are trying, the whole commune, six thousand people, have gone through the vigorous tests to know whether they have AIDS or not. We have found only two persons and few homosexuals. Out of these two persons, one has died; only one remains. We are providing him everything, love, respect, because he is only a victim. The real criminals are there in the Vatican.

And the homosexuals -- I am telling them that you start dropping this habit and move towards heterosexuality. And they will do it, because they can see what is the outcome of it. Now no homosexual can say that they are more progressive then heterosexuals, that they are avant-garde, that they are far ahead intellectually, these heterosexuals are lagging behind just like animals. No they cannot say that. AIDS has stopped all their mouths. It has proved that homosexuality is a degradation.

So we will change them. And we have all kinds of therapies and those homosexuals have to go through all the therapies. We are going to deprogram them from their homosexuality.

Q WOULD YOU DISCOURAGE PEOPLE WHO DON'T WISH TO LOSE THE HABIT FROM COMING TO YOU...

A: Then they can leave! We don't want homosexuals here because they are potentials for AIDS. Either they have to change or they have to leave. The choice is theirs. Okay?

INTERVIEW WITH JERRY THOMPSON, CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION.
Q: I WONDER IF YOU COULD TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT WHERE SHEELA IS NOW AND THE LATEST... WE IN CANADA HAVEN'T REALLY HEARD ALL THE NEWS AND THE STATEMENTS YOU HAVE MADE ABOUT THE ATTEMPTED MURDER, THE ARSON, WIRE TAP AND VARIOUS OTHER THINGS LIKE THAT. SO COULD YOU TELL THOSE IN CANADA WHO DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS WHAT THE STORY IS BEHIND THAT, WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY?

A: You are too late! That story is old. We create new stories. That story you can find in old newspapers and **...
Q: DO YOU EXPECT EVER TO SEE HER AGAIN, OR HAVE YOU SAID YOUR LAST WORDS TO HER?

A: I am perfectly willing if she is courageous enough, she should come here and face me before the commune. She is making allegations which are absolute lies and she is hiding like a criminal in Black Forest in Germany. Now if she has not committed any crime, why she has escaped? If others have committed the crime, they should have escaped. Her escape is proof enough.

And the whole gang that has gone with her, they are all involved, because sannyasins are

going and telling it to the police, to the FBI, revealing all the facts and they have found all the evidences. All the houses were bugged. And they have created far more sophisticated mechanisms than Nixon had used. Every telephone was taped. We have found all the mechanism that they were using; all that has been given to the police.

They had left in their room, in Sheela's room, literature on poisons, literature on how to kill people, and they had attempted three persons to kill. And one of them was my own personal physician. He suspected that this poison is a certain poison which is not detectable. So he was examined here, in Bend, and doctor's said that "There is no disease, but you are certainly sick and the only explanation is that some poison has been given to you which is not detectable." When Sheela left we found the literature in her room. In one of the books the only poison that is underlined is the same which my physician was suspecting, the indetectable poison is underlined. That is the only poison that is underlined in the whole literature. So they were giving that poison to many people, now many other people have come because nobody ordinarily thinks is somebody offers you a cup of tea and you become suddenly sick, you don't immediately think of poison. You think perhaps you are sick, you rush to the doctor and doctor cannot find any disease. He says, "Just rest." What else can be done about it?

We have found in their literature books how to make bombs and we have found chemicals and other material which makes bombs.

They had killed one person, they overdosed him, one of the street people that they had brought here to take over the county. And three thousand people were keeping drugged completely for twenty-one days so that whatever she wants, they will do. They were like robots. And drums of drugs have been imported from outside America because to purchase from here will become a problem, what you did with all those drugs. So those drugs were purchased from outside America and were brought in.

One of the street people they overdosed; he died on the spot. They simply threw his body outside Rancho Rajneesh. The police has found the body, but they could not figure out what has happened to the person, who was the person, because he was a street man, no address from where hee has come, no identity card, nothing. So they simply dropped the case. Now people are coming up and saying that he had died here in the city and they had dragged him out.

They burned the planning office in Dalles and now there is absolute evidence of one sannyasin who had driven the people who bombed, burned the office and she drew them back. She had gone with Sheela, afraid that she may be caught, but in Seattle she started feeling that it is better to be caught than to carry this guilt whole life and then to remain like a criminal in a foreign land. So from Seattle she came back and she confessed and she has confessed all other crimes of the group, because she was on intimate of the whole company.

So every evidence is there now. If they want to catch those people, they should not wait long.

Q: DO YOU THINK THAT HER INTENTION WAS MERELY TO TAKE OVER AND REPLACE YOU, OR DID SHE HAVE SOME OTHER BIGGER PLAN IN MIND?

A: No, certainly this was the... because even my milk was poisoned. Not in such a dose that I will die, but in such a dose that I will not come out of my silence; so I became... remain sick and I don't feel like speaking. She was afraid of my speaking to the people again because

that will certainly expose her. And that's what happened. She wanted to become the chief priestess of the religion, controlling so much money, so many people. I have one million sannyasins around the world. To control one million people around the world, all the communes, all the money; she was almost in a position of a queen!
And she has come from a very low class. She was just a hotel waitress.

Q: ARE YOU MAKING ANY ATTEMPT, IS YOUR ORGANIZATION MAKING ANY ATTEMPT TO TRACK HER DOWN AND DEAL WITH HER OWN YOUR OWN?

A: No, we are not making any attempt, we are giving every evidence to the police. We don't want to take law in our own hands. There is no need.

INTERVIEW WITH MIKE ZEILINZINGER, NIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS.
Q: EVEN BEFORE THE RECENT RIFT AS YOU DESCRIBE IT, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WERE ALREADY HERE, ALREADY LOOKING AT RECORDS. NOT IN THE COMMUNE, BUT WERE ALREADY INVESTIGATING THIS OPERATION. NOW THAT THEY ARE HERE, NOW THAT MANY OUTSIDERS HAVE COME TO LOOK INTO THE FILES AND LOOK INTO THE BOOKS AND LOOK INTO THE TAPE RECORDINGS THAT HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED, DO YOU FEAR THAT WHOLE PROCESS MAY DESTROY THIS PLACE AND DESTROY WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

A: No. They may try, because I don't trust this Attorney General. He may take the advantage to harass sannyasins. I have heard the rumor that he plans at least to arrest one thousand sannyasins which are absolutely innocent and he is not trying to take any action against the criminals. But as far as commune is concerned, there is no problem. We are giving them every evidence, we are absolutely open, we have given them space inside the commune and they are free to move and find whatsoever they want. And sannyasins themselves are going to them and giving information.

But Attorney General's interest seems to be not to catch the criminals, but take an advantage of the situation and destroy the commune. I will not allow this to happen. The Governor and Attorney General both are in conspiracy against the city. The Governor wants to bring emergency on the city. Strange, you are here, there is no riots, there are nobody who is murdered, killed, people are cooperating with the police and still he wants to create an state of emergency. For what reason?

And Attorney General has put the National Guards on alert. I want to know the whole world, that these dirty politicians are the ones who are destroying democracy in America. We will fight for democracy and we will fight for human rights. We are not going to allow them to harass innocent people.

We are not taking the law in our hands, but if they do not do anything, then my communes in Germany will start suing them in the courts, because they have deceived the German communes also of money and not small amount, forty-three million dollars. If they move and hide in Switzerland, then my commune is going to reveal to the police that Sheela has committed bigamy. Her husband is here, American husband. He was also poisoned. Because he did not die, she went away and married a Swiss sannyasin, just to remain in Switzerland. She has committed bigamy.

So we will see. If these people don't do anything, still we will find laws. In India she cannot enter, because there she has committed many crimes. And now we are informing Indian government, ten million dollars, books she has brought from India and she has not paid back the money to the Indian foundation.

Q: COULD YOU ELABORATE A BIT ON THIS CONSPIRACY THAT YOU ALLEGE?

A: Right now it is very difficult, what is in their mind, because they don't open their mind. Even I have been just now in interview with the Attorney General, and I said it again and again, that your case has gone down the drain. He did not answer that. You know politicians are very clever not to speak what is in their mind, what they want to do. But whatever is their mind, we are alert.

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN MCCOY, SEATTLE POST INTELLIGENCER.
Q: YOU SAID EARLIER THAT YOU WERE NOT THE HEAD OF A RELIGION, YOU WERE NOT A PROPHET, YOU ARE NOT A SAVIOR, YOU ARE A MEDITATOR AMONG FRIENDS, AMONG FELLOW MEDITATORS. WHY THEN ARE YOU SO REMOTE? WHY ARE YOU IN THE CHAIR, YOU IN THE ROLLS ROYCE, NOT AVAILABLE EXCEPT AT THESE DISCOURSES TO YOUR FELLOW MEDITATORS?

A: Because I have achieved. They are on the way. And obviously so many people cannot be accommodated in this chair.

Q: HOW ABOUT THE ROLLS ROYCES? MANY COULD BE ACCOMMODATED THERE!

A: They all belong to these people; nothing belongs to me, I don't anything.

Q: WILL THEY RIDE IN THOSE CARS?

A: They don't want. I had offered, I had asked the trustees who own the Rolls Royces that give them to the sannyasins. They are not willing. They say because I have used them, for them they have become immensely valuable and they will keep them as memorial. So they do not want to give and sannyasins don't want to take either. And sannyasins have enough cars.

The commune has almost more cars than any city can claim, hundred buses, five airplanes and nowhere to go!

INTERVIEW WITH ERIC FOLLET, STERN MAGAZINE.
Q: YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE YOUR FRIENDS HERE IN THE COMMUNE SELF-RELIANT IN EVERY WAY, MATERIAL AS WELL AS SPIRITUAL, NOT DEPENDENT ON YOU ANYMORE.

A: That's right.

Q: DOES IT NOT MEAN THAT YOUR FINAL AND MOST LOGICAL GOAL MUST BE TO DISSOLVE THE COMMUNE AND LEAVE IT?

A: My commune does not consist of idiots; it is an commune of very much intelligent people. And many intelligent people whom Sheela has driven out, out of fear, because they were more intelligent than her and she was afraid. Any moment they can take over and manage better. They are all coming back. The chancellor of the university, the vice-chancellor of the university, all old sannyasins with all the education possible in the world. We have geniuses, scientific, who can do miracles, who can start producing anything we want. We have best surgeons, one of the best plastic surgeon. We can have one of the best hospital in America, where people will have to come. We can open industries, we can open businesses. We have all kinds of geniuses, there is no problem.

Money is not a problem at all. Money is the simplest thing in the world. I have lived without money my whole life and I have lived as richly as anybody can live. Perhaps even kings and presidents cannot live so richly. And I don't have a single cent. I have not even seen how one dollar bill looks like. I don't have even pockets, because I have nothing to keep in my pockets. But I have people who can manage anything.

When Sheela left she told few sannyasins that "Now it will be difficult for you to arrange more Rolls Royces for Osho." The sannyasin simply laughed. And after she has left they dropped the regular Rolls Royce, they have started purchasing limousines. Now I have got six limousines. Soon ninety limousines will be there!

Q: ARE THESE GERMAN LIMOUSINES BY CHANCE, GERMAN CARS?

A: Yes, I love... now I am chauffeur driven, I am not driving myself. You can see outside my latest limousine there. And Rolls Royce is making one special limousine which will take one and half year, which will be one of its kind in the whole world. It will cost half million dollars.

My people can arrange anything, there is no problem. So don't be worried about money. And I am not against wealth, I am not against luxury, I am not a masochist ascetic. If we can enjoy paradise here, then why wait for death?

And I have not seen in any religious scripture that Rolls Royces are available in paradise. I think Jesus must be still moving on his donkey. Poor fellow, here was also moving on his donkey, in paradise the only son of God still moving on donkey. Let them move, what we can do?

Q: OSHO, THE LITTLE BOOK WHICH YOU ORDERED TO BE BURNED TODAY CONTAINS ALMOST NOTHING ELSE BUT QUOTES OF YOU, WHICH YOU USE IN QUITE SIMILAR FORM IN YOUR OTHER BOOKS. DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU WILL BURN ALL YOUR BOOKS ONE DAY?

A: No, those are simply books and this was Sheela's effort to make a holy book. We have burned a holy book.

INTERVIEW WITH BILL HARLEM, DENVER POST, COLORADO
Q: THIS MORNING YOU MENTIONED SEVERAL REQUESTS FROM LOCAL PEOPLE FOR PEACE OFFERINGS FROM YOU. I BELIEVE YOU MENTIONED A METHODIST THAT WANTED A ROLLS ROYCE. YOU SAID THAT THESE PEOPLE SHOULD BE OFFERING PEACE OFFERINGS. COULD YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC, WHAT WOULD YOU CONSIDER A PEACE OFFERING FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

A: Just a rose flower will do. But they are not even that generous!

Q: A SANNYASIN TOLD ME AT THE BURNING THIS EVENING, I ASKED HIM WHAT THE DEEP MEANING OF THIS CEREMONY WAS, AND HE SAID, "WELL, IT'S ALL A BIG JOKE."

A: That's right! That is right because I consider sense of humor as one of the most important religious qualities.

Q: THANK YOU, OSHO.

Press Conference

Chapter #6
Chapter title: None

29 October 1985 am in Mecklenburg County Jail, Charlotte, USA

Archive code: 8510290
ShortTitle: PRESS06
Audio: Yes
Video: Yes

[NOTE: This is a typed tape transcript and has not been edited or published, as of August 1992. It is for reference use only. The interviewer's remarks have been omitted where not relevant to Osho's words]

INTERVIEW WITH PETER SANT(?), NIGHTWATCH TV, USA

OSHO:*...(several inaudible words) so many threatening phone calls coming that my friends thought that it is better for three, four days I should be out of Rajneeshpuram. And as the court wanted to see me they could fly me back immediately. That was their idea. I did not know where they are taking me. And if they had simply said that, "The court needs You there," we would have turned the....

Q: YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WERE UNAWARE OF THE SEALED INDICTMENT....*

A:* Absolutely. Absolutely, because they never informed me anything about it.

Q: IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE INDICTMENTS, WHY DID YOU LEAVE THE COMMUNE IN THE MANNER THAT YOU DID? PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT YOU IN A WAY SECRETLY LEFT.*

A:* No. Not secretly. Not secretly. I openly left. Even there was a press reporter standing when I left. And I left in the open daylight, at five o'clock. There was no question of secrecy.

They wanted.... The friends who were taking me, they wanted to keep it secret so nobody knows where they are taking me. Otherwise the same problem will arise. And I will be recognized anywhere.

But there was no question of leaving the country. I was fighting. The whole problem was that they were not giving me the green card and I have been fighting for it.

But the way they have behaved with me has been so disappointing, particularly the U.S. Marshal's department people, that I don't want now to stay in this country.

Q: YOU WANT TO LEAVE?*

A:* I want to leave.

Q: WHERE WOULD YOU GO?*

A:* I can go to my own country.

Q: YOU MEAN GO BACK TO INDIA?*

A:* Yes. I can go back to India, or anywhere else. I can manage anywhere else. If any other country is ready to take me and my commune, I can go there. Otherwise, my commune is already there in India, where I was before. I can immediately move without any trouble.

Q: ARE YOU SAYING THEN THAT REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS IN TERMS OF THESE CHARGES AGAINST YOU, YOU WILL LEAVE THE UNITED STATES?*

A:* Yes, because I... you can see me. This type of behavior.... I don't think that this country is for me. This type of behavior is not... it has been really disappointing.

I love American constitution, I love the people of the country, but it seems the bureaucracy and the politicians are not what they should be.

Here I have been treated by the sheriff and the nurses very humanely and lovingly. So I love the people, there is no question.

But this kind of treatment... and then they chained my legs when they brought from the other place to this place, chained my hands, chained my hands with the legs. Even movement was difficult. That was hurting my back. I told them that, "You are unnecessarily hurting me." And I have not committed any crime.

Q: BY DECIDING TO LEAVE, AREN'T YOU GIVING IN?*

A:* No.

Q: ISN'T THE OTHER SIDE WINNING?*

A:* No. Not the other side. Just I don't accept any kind of uncivilized behavior.

I was fighting with a democratic government in a democratic way and I would have loved to fight up to the Supreme Court. My whole life, there was no problem in it.

But if this kind of behavior happens, then this is not fight. They will kill me. This will not be a fight.

Q: DO YOU FEEL THAT THAT IS SOMEONE'S ULTIMATE GOAL, IS TO SEE YOU DEAD?*

A:* It seems, because what is the reason to keep me here for three days? The simple thing was that if Oregon government wants me, I was ready to go immediately. My planes are standing there on the airport.

ANNOUNCER: BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH. WE'LL HEAR MORE WHEN WE CONTINUE.... WE RETURN TO OUR INTERVIEW WITH THE BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH. HE SPOKE WITH CORRESPONDENT PETER VAN SANT* TUESDAY NIGHT IN A NORTH CAROLINA JAIL.*
Q: IF YOU WERE CONVICTED ON THIS THIRTY-FIVE-COUNT INDICTMENT AND WERE TO RECEIVE THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE, YOU COULD FACE A POSSIBILITY OF ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS....*

A:* That's okay. That's okay. That is no problem. If -- that is a big if, because I have not committed any crime so there is no question of any punishment.

They are saying that I have committed fraud. They are saying that my health is just an excuse, that I was not sick. And they have collected the whole history of my sickness, eight hundred pages -- certificates from all the doctors who have treated me, in India and from outside.

And I myself present that you can create... my illness and sickness is not something that is curable. Just a controlled atmosphere is needed, and I will be okay. If the atmosphere is removed, just bring a little perfume to my nose and you will see that I will go into a asthma attack. So what more proof you need?

So they cannot prove that I have come on false grounds.

Q: BHAGWAN, YOU HAVE BEEN ACCUSED IN THESE INDICTMENTS OF SETTING UP PHONY MARRIAGES SO THAT FOREIGNERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNE CAN STAY IN THE UNITED STATES.*

A:* That's also absolutely absurd, because I don't see sannyasins. I don't even meet them personally. I don't know even their names. Except my personal secretary, I don't see anybody.

Q: DO YOU ARRANGE MARRIAGES?*

A:* No. There is no question. And I don't know who is married to whom. I don't bother.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THEM, THESE INDICTMENTS THAT*

HAVE BEEN MADE AGAINST YOU?

A:* Just they don't want me here. And they should have told simply that they don't want me here. I am a very straightforward man. There is no problem. If they don't want me here, then I don't want to be an unnecessary unwelcome guest. I would have left. There is no need to make it such a political and legal and unnecessary wastage of time for me and for them.

They don't want me and the commune. They should have told. They can say it right now. There is no need for all this process.

And they cannot prove, because I have not suggested anybody to get married to anybody.

Q: WOULD YOU SAY THEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS... HAS A VENDETTA AGAINST YOU?*

A:* Certainly. Because I have been inviting the governor, the attorney general -- both have been talking against me, both have been creating in Oregon antagonism towards the commune -- that, "You come and You see that they are not doing anything against you. And we are absolutely non-political. We have no interest in your politics."

I have been telling that, "If you don't want, you simply say it straightforward that `We don't want you here."' We can move anywhere. Otherwise, I have the place already in India. Here we came only because my health.

This place was suitable, absolutely suitable. It is a desert. No humidity. It is dry and cool both, which I needed. And it is so big -- one hundred twenty-six square miles -- that there is no neighbor near. Twenty miles away the closest neighbor is.

So no problem from neighbors. They can create fire, smoke, anything. And that can be disturbing.

Q: IF I MAY ASK ONE SMALL QUESTION. WHAT WILL BECOME OF THAT COMMUNITY? WILL IT BE... WHEN YOU LEAVE WILL IT BE BULLDOZED, WILL IT....*

A:* No.

Q: WILL IT BE AS THOUGH IT WAS NEVER THERE?*

A:* No. I will sell the commune. We have purchased it and we have put money in it. It is perfectly a beautiful modern town, fully air conditioned, the whole commune. And every house has all modern cap....*

Q: ONE LAST QUESTION IF I MAY. DO YOU HAVE ANY MESSAGE FOR YOUR FOLLOWERS OUT THERE WHO UNDOUBTEDLY ARE GOING TO BE SURPRISED AND POSSIBLY A LITTLE SHOCKED AT YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT THAT YOU WILL LEAVE THE COUNTRY? WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY...?*

A:* No, I have a message to them that whenever I leave they will leave with me. I will

not leave them behind me. They all will be going with me. I will make arrangements for them before I leave. There is no problem.

Press Conference

Chapter #7
Chapter title: None

29 October 1985 om in Mecklenburg County Jail, Charlotte, USA

Archive code: 8510293
ShortTitle: PRESS07
Audio: Yes
Video: Yes

[NOTE: This is a typed tape transcript and has not been edited or published, as of August 1992. It is for reference use only. The interviewer's remarks have been omitted where not relevant to Osho's words]

INTERVIEW WITH TED KOPPEL, ABC NEWS NIGHTLINE TV, WASHINGTON, DC

QUESTION: OSHO, SOME OF YOUR FOLLOWERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR WELFARE. HOW ARE YOU BEING TREATED?

ANSWER: I am being treated perfectly well, particularly the sheriff and his department, the nurses are being very respectful and loving.

But I had been treated very badly by the U.S. Marshall's department. Without any arrest warrant I have been arrested, on the point of the guns. Unnecessarily they had* put me in a place where I suffered. My back pain has returned. My coughing is coming back. My eczema may start any moment. And this is for no reason at all. I have not committed any crime.

Q: WHY WERE YOU HEADING TO BERMUDA?

A: I was receiving many threats to my life. Few of my friends thought that they should take me to a safe place till the indictment comes, then they can fly me back immediately to Oregon. That was the reason. I was not flying from the indictment. I had no knowledge of it, when it was happening, because it was continuously happening for one year.

So I would have waited here. And the planes were ready to take me back any moment, so this was just a safety measure. I was not flying anywhere.
I am a fighter, and when there is fight, I am the last to fly from it.

Q: A MONTH AGO YOU WERE ON THIS BROADCAST WITH MY COLLEAGUE, CHARLIE GIBSON, AND YOU TOLD HIM AT THAT TIME THAT UNDER NO

CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD YOU LEAVE OREGON.

A: Yes, under no circumstances.

Q: BUT YOU DID.

A: No, I have not done.

Q: I MEAN YOU LEFT OREGON, YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY TO BERMUDA, AND IF YOU WERE FEARFUL FOR YOUR LIFE...?

A: But I have not left America....

Q: WELL, YOU WERE TRYING TO.

A: No.

Q: WELL, BERMUDA'S NOT PART OF THE UNITED STATES THE LAST TIME I LOOKED.

A: No. I was going to be somewhere in the United States. I don't know where my friends were taking me.

Q: WELL, YOUR PILOTS HAD CHARTERED A COURSE FOR BERMUDA. DOES THAT SURPRISE YOU?

A: I don't know. I had no idea where they were taking me. I had only this much idea that they want me to be in a safe place and ready to come back at the moment when the court wants me.

Q: OSHO, YOU HAVE A WAY OF ALWAYS CLAIMING IGNORANCE WHENEVER YOU GET INTO A LITTLE BIT OF A TIGHT CORNER. YOU CLAIM YOU KNEW NOTHING ABOUT WHAT YOUR FOLLOWERS WERE DOING BECAUSE YOU HAD BEEN IN A SELF-IMPOSED SILENCE. YOU ONLY HAD CONTACT WITH ONE WOMAN, AND NOW SHE HAS FLED. YOU CLAIMED YOU KNEW NOTHING ABOUT WHAT YOUR FOLLOWERS WERE DOING. THEN WHEN IT BECAME CONVENIENT YOU CLAIMED THAT YOURS WAS NOT A RELIGION.

A: That's exactly how I am, and that's how I function. It is not something that I am playing with. This is how I function.

Q: EVEN YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THAT IT MUST SEEM SOMEWHAT STRANGE TO THOSE OF US WHO ARE NOT PART OF YOUR GROUP, WHO ARE NOT AMONG YOUR FOLLOWERS, THAT WHENEVER YOU GET INTO....

A: I don't care about anybody. I simply stating the truth.

Q: AND THE TRUTH IS WHAT?

A: Truth is this: that I had no idea where they were taking me. And I had not even asked them. I was simply sleeping in the plane, and even from Rajneeshpuram the phone had come to the plane, but it was cut by the politicians somewhere on the way, and it never reached to us. Otherwise we would have come back immediately.

Q: NOW THAT THINGS TO A CERTAIN DEGREE ARE, HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF YOUR HANDS. IF YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY NOW TO GO WHEREVER YOU WANTED, WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

A: Nothing has been taken out of my hands.

Q: WELL YOU'RE IN JAIL.

A: That does not matter.

Q: WELL IT MATTERS IN SO FAR AS YOUR FREEDOM IS CONCERNED.

A: I (inaudible)

Q: IT MATTERS IN SO FAR AS YOUR ABILITY TO MOVE AROUND IS CONCERNED.

A: Nothing to be worried -- it is question only of few days -- and a little bit of my health will suffer, but it does not matter at all. My fight will continue.

Q: WHERE?

A: It is continuing here, and I will suing back in Oregon, and fighting.

Q: JOINING US NOW, LIVE FROM OUR AFFILIATE, KATU, IN PORTLAND,

OREGON IS MARK GREENFIELD, ATTORNEY FOR 1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON, AN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP THAT HAS BEEN SUING THE RAJNEESH SECT ON THE GROUNDS OF ILLEGAL LAND USE.
MR. GREENFIELD: WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
MG: I THINK WHEN SHEELA LEFT OREGON A MONTH OR SO AGO, THERE WAS A LOT OF SPECULATION THAT IT MIGHT BE IN PREPARATION FOR THE OSHO HIMSELF TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.... THAT SHE'S SETTING THE GROUNDWORK FOR HIM LEAVING THE COUNTRY.
Q: OSHO: WERE YOU IN FACT OFF TO MEET SHEELA AND...?

A: This man is simply speaking a lie. And these people are not one thousand friends of Oregon. These are the enemies of Oregon. And I have no intention to leave America till I am victorious in my fight.

Q: OSHO, IT STRETCHES CREDULITY THAT A MAN WOULD GET ON AN AIRCRAFT AND NOT KNOW WHERE HE'S GOING.

A: I... depend on my people for almost everything.

Q: WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOUR PEOPLE? -- YOUR FOLLOWERS?

A: Yes.

Q: YES. YOUR FOLLOWERS?

A: Yes.

Q: IN THE CONVERSATION YOU HAD WITH MY FRIEND CHARLIE GIBSON LESS THAN A MONTH AGO. YOU SWORE UP AND DOWN YOU HAD NO FOLLOWERS.

A: You are calling them followers.

Q: I ASKED YOU TWICE. THAT'S WHY I REPEATED IT.

A: You asked me, and I said yes, because those people think them followers. I think myself they are my friends.

Q: WELL IT'S MORE CONVENIENT TO HAVE THEM AS YOUR FRIENDS WHEN IN FACT YOU'RE TRYING TO DENY THAT WHAT YOU HAVE IS ANY KIND OF A RELIGION.

A: That is no problem. As far as I am concerned they're my friends. And there is no religion.

MG: (PRECIS) WHEN RAJNEESHEES ARRIVED IN OREGON THEY WERE NOT A RELIGION, BUT LATER SAID THEY WERE A RELIGION AS PART OF THEIR DEFENCE AGAINST THE 1000 FRIENDS' LAWSUIT. LATER THEY SAID THEY WERE NOT A RELIGION, PERHAPS IN DEFENCE AGAINST THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LAWSUIT ON MIXING CHURCH AND STATE.

A: There's one thing you are forgetting: that I was in that whole period in isolation and in silence. So whatever happened in that period, I am not responsible.

Q: I KNOW, YOU ARE ALSO THE SAME MAN WHO WAS ASLEEP WHEN YOU GOT ON THE PLANE AND YOU DIDN'T KNOW ...

A: Yes.

Q: WHERE YOU WERE GOING BUT IT ALWAYS SEEMS...

A: Yes.

Q: AS THOUGH YOU ARE CONVENIENTLY UNCONSCIOUS OR OUT OF THE WAY WHEN THINGS ARE GOING ON ABOUT WHICH YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW....

A: That's how I am.
I was in isolation, and I was in silence, and I had not created the religion. The moment I came out of silence, I finished that religion.

Q: SO YOU HAVE NO RELIGION, YOU ARE NOT A LEADER OF ANY GROUP...

A: No, I am not a leader; I am a friend and a guide.

Q: A FRIEND AND A GUIDE WHO HAS RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT HIS FOLLOWERS?

A: Yes, but they are my friends, and I can receive....

Q: NINETY ROLLS ROYCES SEEM A LITTLE BIT EXCESSIVE EVEN FOR A VERY

CLOSE FRIENDSHIP.

A: Nothing is excessive to me. Even nine hundred will not be excessive.

Q: WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW? YOU'RE GOING TO GO BACK TO OREGON?

A: I'm going back to Oregon to fight....

Q: WHAT ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS... YOU THINK THAT THEY WILL BE...

A: They are going to be there and they are going to increase. Every day more people are coming.

Q: OSHO, WHAT YOU THINK YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR FOLLOWERS, ARE GOING TO DO NOW?

A: They are becoming stronger. Whatever has happened to me has helped the movement of my friends around the world. And I am absolutely certain about being victorious in the courts of America, because I trust in the American constitution, and I love the people of America, and I feel that America is the only hope for the whole human race. So I am not going to leave this country. I am going to find for American constitution against American politicians. They are prostituting the democracy and the constitution both.

Q: AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS AND FOLLOWERS? WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'RE GOING TO DO?

A: They are going to fight with me for the constitution and for the democracy.

Q: I MUST CONFESS YOU STILL HAVE ME SOMEWHAT CONFUSED. IT'S NOT A RELIGION, THEY'RE NOT YOUR FOLLOWERS, IT'S A COLLECTION OF FRIENDS, AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE FIGHTING FOR THE CONSTITUTION, THAT'S IT?

A: Yes, they are my friends. Just the idea is new... idea is new to you -- that's why you feel confused. If they are followers then you don't feel confused.

Q: I CERTAINLY DON'T HAVE FRIENDS WHO ARE THRUSTING DIAMOND-ENCRUSTED WATCHES ON ME OR ROLLS ROYCES ON ME.

A:... you are not fortunate, what can I do? I am fortunate. That's the meaning of the word

'bhagwan': the blessed one.

Press Conference

Chapter #8
Chapter title: None

29 October 1985 pm in Mecklenburg County Jail, Charlotte, USA

Archive code: 8510295
ShortTitle: PRESS08
Audio: Yes
Video: Yes

[NOTE: This is a typed tape transcript and has not been edited or published, as of August 1992. It is for reference use only. The interviewer's remarks have been omitted where not relevant to Osho's words]

INTERVIEW WITH CHANNEL 6 TV

OSHO: I had no idea.... I asked them what they are doing -- they don't have any warrant, they did not know for what they are arresting me, and they were shouting, and I told them that "There is no need to shout. You just tell me why you are arresting," and they will not tell. They just handcuffed me.

I am not a criminal and nobody has ever treated me this way. I am willing to come with you, wherever you want... and if you want me to go back to Oregon, I can go back to Oregon, but I must know what is the reason.

I had no idea of this indictment. I was just going for few days rest.

QUESTION: YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WERE UNAWARE OF THE SEALED INDICTMENT?

A: Absolutely.

Q: THE THIRTY-FIVE COUNTS.?

A: Absolutely unaware, because they never informed me anything about it.

Q: THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES SAY THAT YOU WERE FLEEING THE UNITED STATES TO ESCAPE PROSECUTION.

A: That's wrong. They are absolutely wrong, because I have been fighting for all these four years in so many courts, to stay here. But there was no question of leaving the country. I was fighting, the whole problem was that they were not giving me the green card and I have been fighting for it. But the way they have behaved with me has been so disappointing.

Q: ARE YOU SAYING THEN THAT REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS IN TERMS OF THESE CHARGES AGAINST YOU, YOU WILL LEAVE THE UNITED STATES?

A: Yes, because I... you can see me, this type of behavior.... I have been for thirty years in India, teaching millions of people, and I have been criticizing prime ministers -- if I thought that they were doing something which was not democratic, if I felt it was not civilized, it was something dictatorial or if they are taking the country towards communism, not towards freedom and more democracy -- I had criticized them continuously.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW, WHAT WILL BECOME OF YOUR COMMUNE, OF RAJNEESHPURAM?

A: No, first I will have to fight -- whatsoever is going on, it has to be finished. Once it is finished, I will move; I will not stay here.

Q: WHAT WILL BECOME OF YOUR FOLLOWERS?

A: No, I will take them to India. There is no problem...

[this part of transcript was scrambled...]

Press Conference

Chapter #9
Chapter title: (no title)

17 November 1985 am in Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Delhi

Archive code: 8511170
ShortTitle: PRESS09
Audio: Yes
Video: Yes
Length: 68 mins

[NOTE: This is a typed tape transcript.]

(Questions 1-16: press conference with Ma Prem Hasya.)

Q1 (missing)
(...) and that will (inaudible) sometimes dark… You know, America was discovered by Columbus. But the fact is that he was not the first man to discover America. In Turkey there is a map today over seven hundred years old in which we see that they picture America in the same proportions as it is shown today in modern day maps.

Also 10.000 years ago - and I have to refer to the notes as I don't remember the name - in the Hindu scriptures, in the Mahabarata, talk about the brave warrior Arjuna and his wife, who was to be a Mexican.

America is a country that has been discovered again and again and again. And then hushed up.

And we this week see how the politicians can take a totally innocent human being who is incapable harming anyone, in any way, and treat him like this common criminal. If you would have seen him chained, at his ankles, his waist and wrists.

When we were informing that he had a bad back the police called it speed at great speeds, running over heavy bumps so that his back would be jarred up and down.

He's a diabetic and requires specific diet, that was not offered, in fact at times the (inaudible) were made as why is he a vegetarian, what is it, what kind of cake is this?

Yes there is something that is not quite understood in America.

Q2: *COULD YOU TELL US EXACTLY WHAT HIS PHYSICAL CONDITION IS TODAY? YOU SAID HE HAS BEEN TORTURED…*

His back is hurting. He has difficulty breathing. His voice is choked. And he is still very very tired. You see what? In the prisons that he was moved from place one to another, they were lying to him, telling him now we are flying directly to Portland, which would have been a six hours flight from North Carolina, instead it took seven days to get there.

In one prison they were forcing him to sign his name as David Washington whereupon Bhagwan said but I cannot do that, that is not my name. And he was told 'you better forget your name because from now on we will be referring to you as David Washington and you reply to that. But he signed his name of course in Sanskrit which the officer could not figure out what it was, so he signed over it, he signed over Bhagwan's signature: David Washington. And when we attempted to find him, his attorneys, of course the authorities inside the prison didn't have a record of Bhagwan's whereabouts. While millions of people outside were in anguish and agony, worrying about Bhagwan's safety, no one knew of his whereabouts. He was not allowed to even

call his attorney. And when the attorneys were attempting to reach him, they were told that he was not there.

He was also put in a cell, with a prisoner who had been kept in isolation for months on end. Or with a high-risk contagious herpes person. The authorities did not think of putting anyone else in there but when Bhagwan arrived, he was the person they wanted to contaminate. Until one evening from the next cell over sent a note to Bhagwan saying to him 'Be careful. This man is contagious, they are trying to harm you'.

Q3: *WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY CONTAGIOUS?*

Herpes is a very contagious illness that you cannot cure once you have it.

Q4: *WHERE WAS THIS, WHICH PRISON?*

That was in Oklahoma prison. And by-the-way Bhagwan has said that the prisoners, in all prisons that he had been in, seem to have been the nicest people. They seem like the right people and the people who were outside were the wrong people. Things were somewhat reversed.

While in prison he lost eight pounds, he had not slept for ten consecutive nights. He was always put in a cell between two terrible TVs which began playing at five in the morning and went on playing till midnight. After which the inmates would be shouting to each other from cell to cell to maintain (inaudible) and communication.

And he asked to turn out the light, he was never allowed to put his lights turned off. After all he is such a dangerous criminal he may escape in his cell in the dark.

The whole thing was done to destroy the commune. And that is exactly what is going on right now. The commune is being destroyed piece by piece.

This was the first experiment in the history of human kind where real communism existed. There was no currency. There was no currency used of any kind. Everyone was given by the commune what they needed. Everything was provided. We were totally self-sufficient also. This was Bhagwan's vision: to distribute poverty is NOT communism. But to distribute wealth to such affluence that one has no need to hoard it, is the answer to the problems in the world.

He was also teaching us responsibility to the whole existence. And over the four years that the commune existed not one newborn child was born. Because to give birth today to a child in our day, in this time of history, is almost a crime.

We have no rape, we have no suicide, no cases of madness. The only thing the politicians could do about the success of that little community was really deal with the madness of their own mind and that is go ahead to destroy. And the only way they know how to destroy was to start harassing Bhagwan. And as many of you who know Bhagwan as (inaudible), know that he is a man who has never walked away from a fight. If anything is right, then fight. But after seen the treatment he received, in the courts and in the jails, before any crimes were even pointed out, his friends had asked him to please not to put himself through this harassment because they will not let up on you.

(inaudible) he would have been in courts on almost daily basis, being subpoenaed from one case as a witness to another as a possible criminal. I sat in those courts listening, in person, and all of the accusations that were brought on, never were true. There were all sorts of allegations that they may some day prove, if the case would be ongoing. None of them had been proven.

And we (inaudible) on Bhagwan and with his compassion, he chose to listen to us. And therefore we have made a deal with the government. The US government made a deal because they knew they did not have a case against him. If they thought they had a case, they would not have agreed to allow him to get a fine and allow him to leave the country within five days. Because that would be obvious (inaudible) for Bhagwan and for our peace of mind.

And aren't you surprised that the press, that has been recording the court hearing has not really picked-up on it, but rather has been riding (inaudible) guilty, none had looked in to see what it actually meant. What it actually means is there is no contest, it says that if you proceed with a trial, you may or may not find me guilty, (inaudible). And I choose not to contest it. (inaudible) and that is exactly what we did. As soon as the court hearing was over, we had an airplane ready at the airport and we took off.

Q5: *WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW? WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS NOW, FOR THE MOVEMENT …?*
A: For (inaudible) ?

Q6: *NO, FOR RAJNEESH, FOR THE COMMUNE, FOR THE MOVEMENT, FOR COMMUNISM, WHERE WILL HE GO?*
A: Bhagwan is here at home now. He is going to go to his residence.

Q7: *WHERE?*
A: In the Himalayas. That is not a commune, that will be his residence. The world (inaudible) will be continuing on, communes all over the world. In fact the irony of this last month or so, the people who wanted to kill him off, and kill his teachings, have just done the opposite. Because now the whole world knows of Bhagwan. The whole world was watching what is happening. We got more interest in his teachings than ever, more books are selling all over the world.

Q8: *CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE EXACTLY (inaudible) ?*
A: (inaudible)

Q: (inaudible)
A: I would rather he has his privacy since that will be his residence, not a place where people (inaudible)

Q9: (inaudible) *ONLY IN INDIA OR* (inaudible)
A: It will be in India.

Q10: (inaudible) *MEETING* (inaudible) *ALSO WHEN YOU SAY* (inaudible)
A: For now he will be living in privacy.

Q11: *FOR HOW LONG?*
A: That I cannot say.

Q12: *WHAT DO YOU SAY THE MOVEMENT IS GOING ON, ARE YOU IMPLYING THAT HE IS WITHDRAWING FROM IT, IS THAT CORRECT OR?*
A: I say he is going to stay in privacy in his residence. His teaching has been spread around the world where we can continue. At this point we respect his need for recovery.

Q13: *WHEN DOES HE LEAVE DELHI* (inaudible)?
A: (inaudible) today.

Q14: *HIS RESIDENCE WILL IT BE SOMETHING* (inaudible)?
A: (inaudible) it will be his residence.

Q15: *WILL THAT BE IN KULU MANALI ?*
A: I would rather not speak where (…)

Q16: (inaudible) *TAXATION OR* (inaudible)?
A: No. Bhagwan does not own anything, has not owned anything for over thirty years. He is not at all concerned with worldly matters. What he teaches has nothing to do with his private life.
Bhagwan will be available for a very short while. Keep your questions to the minimum and (inaudible)

(inaudible) to make a statement. (inaudible) happened, in America, (inaudible) how one single silent meditative human being (inaudible)
Now let's wait for Bhagwan. I ask people not to (inaudible)

(Osho enters.)
a journalist, Q17: *WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS IN INDIA?*

Osho: First I would like to speak (inaudible), then you ask questions.
First thing I want to say to you is, a good morning to India. It is my motherland. Although poor but highly rich as far as the inner world of men is concerned. This is the only land left in the whole world which can still recognize evolution of consciousness and the ultimate goal of the travel, enlightenment. And the whole world beyond India simply is living in the materialist eat,

drink and be marry is their only religion. Which is hilarious. And absurd.

Five years I have been in America and this time has been a hell. We were doing an experiment that has never been tried before in the history of men. We wanted to make a model that can be an inspiration for the whole world around. And we almost had succeeded in it.

I had 5000 sannyasins with me. We changed the desert into an oasis. We became self-sufficient about everything. Food, vegetables, fruits. We made everything with our own hands, the roads, houses, hospitals, schools, university.

And you cannot believe these 5000 people were so happy and so rejoicing. So healthy. In four years time not a single child was born. Because I had made it clear to them that to give birth to more children is now a crime. The world is already over-populated.

There has been no crime in all this time. No theft, no rape, no murder, no suicide. The commune was living absolutely comfortably and that became to the American politicians a danger. I don't have any power. My people were producing. The American politicians have power but they have not been able to create such a joyous and happy people anywhere else. This became a inferiority complex and the only way the dirty politicians can think is to destroy the commune.

So there is no comparison exists.

Naturally they thought if I'm removed from there, it will be difficult for the commune to remain together. It will be easier for them to destroy it completely. I have never committed any crime in my life. I may have differed as far as philosophically differences concerned about laws and legalities but I have never acted against those laws even which I philosophically feel are wrong.

They could not get, for four years they were trying to catch me desperately. But they could not find anything wrong with me. Then they became almost mad. They caught me with twelve guns pointed at me without giving me any arrest warrant, without telling me why I am being arrested. Not even allowing me to call my attorney. And this is a democratic country. They could not prove in the court anything against me. They accepted themselves, the US attorney make himself a laughing stock. He had nothing against me and finally he said that he had no case. But only one thing I want, that bails should not be given here in North Carolina, but I should be sent to Oregon and there is the possibility of bail. This was their strategy, to torture me, to keep me in prison for twelve days without proving any guilt, any crime. And in those twelve days I have seen the real face of America. It is not a democracy. It is simply hypocrisy. My physicians have suggested to the government my problems, my back is bad and they made me sit the whole night on solid steel benches. So my back has deteriorated so much so that walking is difficult for me right now. My physicians told them that I am diabetic so food should be controlled. And they refused to me that 'we don't have any diabetic food. So whatsoever is available you will have to eat'. I could not eat for twelve days and lost ten pounds of weight. My physician has suggested to them that I am allergic to few things, perfume, smoke, dust and other things. They managed to put me in such situations where people were smoking continuously, using perfume continuously, dirty, dusty, full of cockroaches. They will not allow me my own pillow or my blanket because I cannot use a woollen blanket. That is also part of my allergies. So for twelve days I have not slept at all. And they made such arrangements: from six till midnight two televisions were full speed on and when at twelve the televisions stopped the inmates started talking loudly from cell to cell.

It was impossible to sleep at all.

I was not concerned about my body. I have transcended it long before. Even if they had killed it, there was no harm to me. I was simply a witness to all this idiotic fascist strategies. But I was concerned about my people around the world who were very much concerned what is happening to me. They will not allow even to tell to my people where I am at a certain point. They went on in twelve days changing me from one jail to another jail. When they change one jail they force me to sign under a false name. I said this is illegal and you are law enforcement authorities. This seems to be contradictory. They told me you have to sign under David Washington. I said I can not write that name, that is not my name. So the Marshall himself wrote the form, filled the form, and he said 'If you don't sign it then you will be sitting on that steel bench the whole night'. I have signed it in my own name so that as a proof there they wanted the world to know that I am not there in the jail. They took me to another jail tomorrow morning and they were lying all the time: 'We are taking you to the airport to go to Oregon', where my case has to be decided. But instead of taking me to Oregon they are taking me to another jail. And in that jail they put me with a inmate who has high-risk confirmed herpes. He has been living for months without anybody else in the cell. Just another inmate informed me, wrote a letter that 'Bhagwan this is being done to you knowingly. You are unaware that that man has confirmed herpes, they want you to get the herpes'.

Twelve days it took me, for them, to take from North Carolina to Oregon. They did not do directly anything because the whole world, media, my people, were watching.

But they tried to do indirectly things to harm me.

They have called this case ‘US versus Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh’. Now they should be in a dilemma, because I have become a winner. What about US government? This proves that a single man of innocence is more powerful than a nuclear greatest power in the world.

The last day they were afraid, almost certain, that I have no case against me, the judge is going to give me the bail, and I will be free.

Never in twelve days I was left alone. I was chained, the legs were chained, my waist was chained. I was treated as a very dangerous criminal.

But the last day, they were afraid that I will be freed. The whole staff in the jail was absent when I went there to take my things. Only one man was there. And he too said to me: ‘You wait, I am going to bring your clothes’. He locked the door, went out. This was something new to me.

But later on it was found in the jail, in the same room where I was left alone, locked, a bomb was found. So this was their desperate effort, if they cannot catch me legally, they can at least kill me.

Q18: *WHICH PLACE WAS IT, BHAGWAN? ABOUT WHICH ROOM ARE YOU TALKING AT THIS MOMENT? I DON’T UNDERSTAND. YOU WENT TO THE JAIL AFTER BAIL AND THEN YOU WERE LEFT IN A WAITING ROOM? I DON’T UNDERSTAND.*

Osho: No, in the same place my things I was collecting to give me.

Q*: WAS THAT IN PORTLAND? (different interviewers talking through another)*

Osho: It is important.

Q19: (repeats:) *IS THAT IN PORTLAND?*

Osho: It is in Portland.

Q20: *NOT IN CAROLINA?*

Osho: No.

Because I was bailed out. And for a man they have not proved anything, the bail was enormous. 500.000 dollars. But in case I am bailed, they had another strategy to kill me. But somehow the bomb helped me.

Q21: *HOW? IT DID NOT GO.*

Osho: It did not go. The American government is far more cruel than bombs. I was going to fight my last breath, because there is nothing that I have done. But my people persuaded me their tears that I should not fight this case, they will kill me. Just out of compassion I agreed not to fight. And immediately they were ready not to fight, if I gave 400 thousand dollars…

Q: …*FINE.*

Osho: Fine. For doing nothing. It really looks fine.

Q22: *IS IT FINE OR IS IT HARD CASH?*

Osho: Hard cash.

Q23: *IT MEANS YOU HAVE BEEN ACQUITTED OR YOU ARE STILL IN BAIL?*

Osho: No, I am acquitted. The whole case has been dropped. Because there has been no case at all. And they gave me five days to leave the country. And now they are harassing my people there.

We had made really a paradise. This land was 126 square miles. And for 50 years it was lying dead. We made it blossom, we made dams.

But this was the thing that was hurting them.

But to me it has been a great experience. I have known hell before ever entering hell. And I am proud of my country the way they greeted me, with respect and love. Show that this is the only land where people can understand enlightenment, meditation, awakening to higher levels of consciousness.

I am finished with the whole world. I will be here now. For this country and for those people who want to come to me for guidance. But I am not going to leave this country anymore. This is where I belong. The moment I entered the country I felt such a relief seeing people with great respect and gratitude and love. I have seen the opposite pole in America.

To sum up the whole thing: America is not a democracy. It is befooling the whole world. The

whole world should get united to put the monster America in its place. I am reminded that Columbus was not the first man to discover America. Four hundred years before Columbus somebody has made a map of America which is exactly the map as we have. That map exists in Turkey. We know perfectly well that one of the wives of Arjuna, five thousand years before, was from Mexico. America has been discovered many times. And many times has been hushed up. This time it should be hushed up forever.

But one point you should remember: that even a single innocent man is more powerful than all nuclear weapons. As far as I'm concerned, I was just a watcher of the whole stupid game that was going on. My body suffered, but not I. And that is the whole foundation of all religious experience. You can remain always a witness. Whatever happens, you are not it. You are only the seer. And I am immensely happy back to the land of Buddha, Mahavira, Nagarjuna. The very air, the very earth of this land is sacred. I am really proud that I am an Indian.

You can ask your questions.

Q24: (inaudible)

Osho: And I will be there available to anybody who wants any guidance from me. And there are millions of people around the world. But I am not going to make a commune again. They can come, they can sit with me, they can solve their problems and go back to their home.

Q25: *CAN WE COME AND MEET YOU THERE SOMETIME?*
Osho: Certainly.

Q26: *THE PRESS WILL BE WELCOME?*
Osho: Yes.

Q: (inaudible)
Osho: The press is always welcome. I am a contemporary man.

Q27: *WHERE ARE YOU GOING IN THE HIMALAYAS AND WHEN ARE YOU GOING?*

Osho: Right now I am going to Kulu Manali. And then I will search for the right place. I take one or two months to find the right place for me. Perhaps Kulu Manali itself may turn out to be the right place.

But to the press, this is my promise: you are always welcome.

Q28: *WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WITH YOUR ASHRAM AT OREGON, YOUR RAJNEESH ASHRAM THERE?*

Osho: The ashram is there. Now because I am not there, they are harassing my people there. Any kind of invented crimes, in which they are going to fail, but they can harass. My own suggestion to my people in Oregon is: this is not the place. Disperse to your own countries. We had a beautiful dream for those four years, living together. We have made the commune, the first in the whole history, a real communist commune. Without any dictatorship. In the commune no money was used. I have not seen in five years even a dollar bill. We provided everybody whatsoever was his need. But I will disperse those people from there. If they can harass me, that will mean they can harass my people very easily. So they will be going to their own communes. I have communes all over the world. So somebody who is German goes to German communes, we have six communes in Germany. Somebody who is Swiss goes to Switzerland. We have a beautiful commune there. Somebody who is in Australia goes to an Australian commune. Those who are from India will come back to India. But the commune will remain Poona. My place in the Himalayas will be my residence. And you will be my personal guests.

(end of video 1:08:05, audio continues 00:39:44)

Q29: *YOU CONTINUE THE COMMUNITY IN POONA?*
Osho: Yes.

Q30: *WHY YOU DON'T ALSO ESTABLISH A COMMUNE IN KULU MANALI?*

Osho: No. Just because too much unnecessary work has to be done. This way is easier. People can come and go and see me, meet me, and they can live in their own commune so no problem is there.

Q31: *WILL YOU BE VISITING* (inaudible)

Osho: No.

Q32: *IN EFFECT, WILL IT MEAN THAT YOU WITHDRAW YOURSELF FROM ALL ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD?*

Osho: No. I will be here. I have never been in any post in any commune. I have never had any power in any commune. I was always just a guest, an outsider.

Q33: *WHO IS ADMINISTERING RAJNEESH INTERNATIONAL AND THE RAJNEESH FOUNDATION IN OREGON, WHAT IS THEIR FUTURE, BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT BE WITH THEM, AND WHO WILL ADMINISTER THEM?*

Osho: They were already administering them. I was not administering them there. I was just a guest to them.

Q34: (inaudible)
Osho: They cannot because they have dropped the whole case.

Q35: *YOU HAVE TAKEN SOME OF YOUR DISCIPLES* (INAUDIBLE) *SO DO YOU ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN AGAIN BY OTHER DISCIPLES?*

Osho: No, there will not be any disciples. Just few people who take care of me. My personal physician, my dentist, my cook, my cleaner. Just a dozen people, that's all.

Q36: *ONE OF THE CHARGES AGAINST YOU IS THAT IN OREGON THAT YOU CONDUCTED SHAM MARRIAGES OR FAKE MARRIAGES SO THAT THE FOREIGNERS COULD REMAIN IN AMERICA. AND THAT YOU PLEADED GUILTY. IS IT TRUE OR FALSE?*
Osho: It is absolutely false.

Q37: *WHY DID YOU PLEAD GUILTY THEN?*

Osho: I had to plead guilty because of my people. In my whole life for the first time I have spoken a lie. My people were so much in trouble, they wanted me somehow to get out of America. But I have never participated in any marriage, I have never suggested to anybody for any marriage. My function in the commune was only spiritual guidance, nothing mundane. I had to plead guilty out of compassion. I was ready to fight because I have nothing to loose. Whatever a man can gain in his life I have gained. And the body is going to die anyway so that is not much of a problem.

In life the only thing certain is death. So about that nobody needs to be worried. But looking at millions of my friends around the world, I thought that this life is worth. But I have never supported any false marriage, I have never done anything false, fraud, in my whole life.

Q38: *YOU JUST TOLD THAT…* (inaudible)

Osho: It is possible because I don't have a single paisa with me. I don't even have even pockets to keep it. My people paid the bail, paid the punishment the imposed.

Q39: (inaudible)

Osho: I understand you. What was the problem? There was no case against me. Even the US attorney said it in the court that there is no case we can prove. But the settlement will happen in Oregon, in my own state. So they wanted these 12-15 days as much to torture me, knowing perfectly well that there is no case. So torture before the case, and my people were afraid that the case they will go on prolonging, in legal jargon, long enough and they were insisting that I am a dangerous man so bails should not be provided. I have not killed even an ant in my life. For the first time I came to know and laugh that I am a dangerous man. My friends' concern was, that they can prolong the case long, and it seemed clear, after the half day's hearing, they became desperate. They could see that their case is falling, there is nothing they can prove. After the lunch break they started lying. They started saying that I was conspiring to murder the US supreme court chief justice. I was trying to kill the attorney general. When they used the name Turner, I was surprised. I had not even heard it before. So my friends

became aware that they will go on round and round and carry on the case as long as possible. And forcing me into jail, because if they say that I have been harbouring ideas of murdering the chief justice, the attorney general then this man is not to be left alone. He should be in the jail. This was the reason that my friend said that it is better you accept that I am guilty.

Q40: *ARE YOU READY TO FORGIVE THEM? DO YOU FORGIVE ALL OF THEM?*
Osho: No, they are not human either.

Q41: *THAT MEANS YOU ARE STICKING WITH ANGER RATHER THAN WITH COMPASSION AND LOVE?*

Osho: No, I am speaking just truthfully. What they have done with me is enough proof that I don't consider them human. They are sub-human. Yes for compassion I am ready. For compassion there is no question. But the truth has to be said as it is. Animals should be treated with compassion but that does not mean they become human.

Q42: *ARE THERE ANY CASES AGAINST YOU IN INDIA?*

No. No because I have never been holding any post. I have never been in charge of anything. Against me there can be no case.

Q43: *WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH YOU HAVE LEFT THE COUNTRY?*

It was my back. They tried here for two months. We had the best therapists. We tried flexion. Then we called a world famous man from England to treat my back. After two days working on that he said 'this is a unique case in my life, you will have to live with it. Just you have to be careful.' So he managed a certain kind of chair which fits with my back and there is no pain. My people thought perhaps in America maybe something is possible. I had gone for health reasons.

Q44: (inaudible) *EXPOSE THE HYPOCRISY, WHICH IS FUNCTIONING IN THE NAME OF DEMOCRACY. WILL YOU CARRY ON YOUR CRUSADE FOR JUSTICE WITHIN UNITED STATES FOR YOUR FOLLOWERS AND JUSTICE FROM THE UNITED STATES FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD?*

I don't think there is much possibility of justice from the United States. I had the idea that men in the States is far better than the Soviet Union but my actual experience is that Soviet Union is much more straight forward. At least not hypocrite.

Q45: *YOU SAID THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE SHUT UP FOREVER. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?*

I mean by that that this piling of nuclear weapons and they are continuously piling up. Already they have so much nuclear weapons they can destroy humanity 700 times. And seeing for five years the way they behave, it will not be inconceivable that America will be the end of the world. Either America hush up or America will be the end of the world. The real enemy is no more Soviet Union. It is America.

Q46: *BUT YOU TALK OF SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T GO WITH YOUR ACTUAL LIFE STYLE. THERE IS A CONTRADICTION THAT DOESN'T GO UNNOTICED. YOU LIVE IN A FIVE STAR HOTEL AND YOU HAVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND ROLLS ROYCES. AND YOU TALK OF SIMPLE LIFE AND SIMPLE VALUES AND YOU DON'T THINK THAT IS A CONTRADICTION. YOU DON'T HAVE A (INAUDIBLE)BUT YOU HAVE DIAMONDS.*

Osho: My idea of life is, to live at it's peak. I am not a worshipper of poverty. And I know that we are capable to make everybody as comfortable and luxurious as possible. 75 percent energy, money goes into the service of death and war. If war and death are dropped from our minds, 75 percent energy and money can make the whole world live as comfortably as I am living, perhaps better. I am not a not a worshipper of poverty. I hate poverty. And I want to destroy it from the world. And the people who have been making poverty something spiritual are just consoling poor people. Giving them hope that in the other world 'blessed are the poor because they shall inherit the kingdom of God'. This is all nonsense because no eyewitness exists for it. I said blessed are the rich because they are already inheriting the kingdom of God.

And we are capable with all our technology and science. Just one stupid idea has to be dropped, of fighting, war, third world war and the whole humanity can live beautifully. There is no need.

And you see my watch. These are not real diamonds. These are just stones. Proletariat stones.

Laughter

Osho: This is the cheapest watch you can manage. My own people have made it. My dresses are made by my own people. My shoes are made by my own people. My cap is made by my own people. I am the poorest man in the world in a way. And richest too.

Q47: *HOW YOU DESCRIBE THIS DRESS OF YOURS? DO YOU CALL IT A TOGA? A GOWN?*

Osho: I call it a gown.

I have to leave for the plane. But you are welcome always to come. I am always available to the press. Nobody will be stopping you.

You are my people

…and I feel your heart with my heart and you will spread my message to the whole world.

Press Conference

Chapter #10
Chapter title: None

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INTERVIEW BY HINDI BHAGWAN MAGAZINE

BELOVED OSHO, MILLIONS OF YOUR LOVERS IN INDIA ARE REJOICING IN YOUR ARRIVAL IN THIS COUNTRY.
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO YOU SAID THAT ROOTS OF YOUR RELIGION WILL BE IN INDIA, ITS BRANCHES WILL SPREAD IN ENGLAND, AND BLOSSOM IN AMERICA. IN THE LIGHT OF CURRENT EVENTS, WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS?

It still remains the same.

What the American government has done, it will have to repent for it. The American people have loved me immensely. It is not the people of America or the land of America that was against me. It was the priests, particularly the Christians and the Jews, and most and particularly the politicians. But all these three are going to die sooner or later. Their time is finished. The time is coming when people will be on the top, as they should have always been. The politicians and the priests call themselves servants of the people but just verbally.

The time has come, they will have to be servants of the people and nothing more. So I stand with my statement. It will be just exactly that way. And what they have done to me, they are not aware that they have created a great wave of sympathy all over America for me. People who have not even heard about me started reading, listening and were puzzled that why such a man should be tortured?

It will take a little time but what crime America has committed against me and my philosophy is going to be more powerful than their all nuclear weapons. The flowers will come in America. I have seen in the eyes of the people, even in the five, six jails that I was continuously transferred -- all the prisoners were happy to see me, they all hailed me -- victory. They all showed me two fingers, without any exception, because even the prisoners

could understand because they were seeing the videos, the television, they could not understand that America can do something to a man who had nothing to do with politics, who has only created a beautiful oasis that they are trying to destroy.

Whenever I was leaving any prison, the prisoners will say, "Osho, don't forget us. Whenever we will be out, please let us be part of your commune."

So the people at large unanimously have been turned towards me by the stupidity of the government.

The statement remains the same. (inaudible)

YOU SAID, OSHO: WHEN WRITERS AND INTELLECTUALS ARE IMPRISONED IN SOVIET RUSSIA, THE WHOLE INTELLIGENTSIA OF THE WEST, PARTICULARLY AMERICA, MAKES BIG HUE AND CRY. BUT WHEN YOU WERE, YOU -- THE AUTHOR OF MORE THAN FOUR HUNDRED BOOKS, WHOSE WORKS HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO ALL THE MAJOR LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD -- WERE DRAGGED IN CHAINS AND SHACKLES WITHOUT AN ARREST WARRANT, IN FRONT OF AMERICA MEDIA -- NOT A SINGLE INTELLECTUAL RAISED THEIR VOICE OF PROTEST.

WHY IS THIS CONDITION?

There is a reason. The so-called intelligentsia are not really intelligent people. They may have written books, but those books are nothing but borrowed from other books. They may have painted but those paints are just borrowed paintings.

The so-called intelligentsia has not the genius, and I don't belong to them.

I am a category in myself. I have not borrowed from anyone.

In fact, the intellectuals are deep down antagonistic to me because they can see their inferiority. So when I was tortured, they remained silent. Perhaps they were happy. That shows the poverty of their intelligence, and poverty of their heart.

They are all egoist people working to get some award, some Nobel prize.

My work is totally different. Whatever I have said I have enjoyed saying it, loved saying it. My reward was in saying it. It was intrinsic. I don't need any Nobel prize. I will not accept it, It will be an insult -- because I have got my price already.

Those people are pygmies. They look like intellectuals compared to the common masses but they are not enlightened people.

When Jesus was crucified, not a single intellectual raised a voice against. And Judea, the land of Jesus was full of great intellectuals. And rabbis are well known for their scholarship. No other religion can be compared as far as the scholarship of the rabbis is concerned, but not a single rabbi was courageous enough to say that this is not right. In fact, they were all happy. In fact, they wanted him to be crucified because he did not belong to their category.

What I want to make clear is -- it is a question of category. Jesus spoke on his own authority the way I speak on my own authority. What I say does not depend on the Vedas , or The Bible or the Koran . What I say if Koran also says it, it is good for Koran. If it does not say it, then to hell with Koran. .

I am not taking anybody's support for me. People who don't have their own experience need support.

And it is not new. It has always been so.

Efforts were made to kill Gautam Buddha. No intelligentsia of the country stood against

it.
Mahavira was tortured but no intelligentsia stood against it.
Mansoor was murdered.
Socrates was poisoned, but no intelligentsia.

And Athens was full of intellectuals. It was the most intellectual city that has ever existed in the world but not a single intellectual stood in support for Socrates for the simple reason because all those intellectuals were impotent. They did not have any authentic experience of their own.
And the existence of Socrates was creating a deep inferiority in them.

This was the only man who was saying things which he knew, and who has guts to say if something he did not know, he was courageous enough to say that, "I do not know."

This man stood far higher than the so-called intellectuals. They all wanted him to be removed. He was a pain in their necks. In the presence of Socrates, they were nobodies. Without Socrates, they were great philosophers, great thinkers.

The same is the situation with me. Thousands of people protested against my arrest -- around the world. Thousands of telegrams, phones, telexes. In every jail where I was, the jailers were utterly tired. They said, "We thought we were torturing you. You are torturing us. The whole day the phone, twenty-four hours from all over the world -- telegrams, telephones, telexes. And the news media continuously around the prison twenty- four hours. Hundreds of cameras, television, newspapers." They said that, "You have put us in such a bad light, and everybody is against us that we are torturing an innocent man." The innocent people raised their voice, but not the intellectuals.

And I don't feel anything bad about it because only the innocent can understand me, not the intellectuals. They are full of garbage. It is good that they did not raise their voice. I don't want to be part in any way with their company.

OSHO, THE AVERAGE LIFE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF COMMUNES IN AMERICA AND ELSEWHERE ALSO HAS BEEN THREE TO FIVE YEARS; AND USUALLY THEY GET DISINTEGRATED EITHER DUE TO EXTERNAL FORCES OR INTERNAL CONFLICTS OR CONSPIRACY. THE SAME CALAMITY IS HAPPENING TO OUR UNIQUE EXPERIENCE IN RAJNEESHPURAM. WHY IT IS SO AND WHAT COULD BE DONE TO AVOID IT?

The reason is almost natural. First they had no knowledge of me. They allowed to purchase the land. They allowed to build the city. They recognized the City legally. For two years things went perfectly well. They were supporting with funds, state and federal both.

Two reasons were there. One, they were not aware what I stand for. Secondly, I was silent, and in isolation; so I was not speaking. Otherwise the news media would have reached to them.

And politicians don't read books. They don't have time. They knew, read only newspaper cuttings that too given by their secretaries whatever is relevant to them.

So my being silent helped. My being in isolation helped, but slowly slowly they became aware first that I am not a Christian. The people surrounding me are mostly Christian but they have dropped the idea of Christianity.

The first thing was raised by the Christian missionaries, bishops, cardinals and others that I am silently converting Christians into my own religion. And Christianity has a great control

in America where all the votes are Christians, few votes are Jewish.

Jews were also against me. And after three and half years when I started speaking, then the politicians became afraid. Because I am accustomed to say only that which seems absolutely true to me. And I am ready to fight for it, argue for it. Unless I am refuted I will continue to insist for it. And it is a strange phenomenon that in my whole life nobody has argued against me.

So after three and half years, when I started speaking, then things became tense. Then the government became afraid that it is not just a small commune. It is going to have world-wide impact. That it is better to destroy it before it becomes too strong.

And it is hilarious that a country which is thought to be the greatest power in the world was afraid of a single man and five thousand friends. But the fear was substantial.

We had managed communism without dictatorship, without any government.

In the commune there was no use of currency notes or money.

Everybody was well fed, had good clothes, had good houses. And we have made everything with our own hands -- we had not hired any labor from outside. Five thousand peoples were living in centrally air-conditioned homes made by themselves, beautifully. They had made a dam in a desert which was a miracle. They were cultivating their food, their vegetables, their fruits, their milk products. There was no beggar, no poor, no rich.

That became a danger to the American politician -- that inside America I have managed to bring communism and in a far superior way than it exists in Soviet Russia or anywhere else. There it exists by force. Here it exists by love. So it was natural that they should try to destroy it. But existence functions in a very mysterious way. By destroying it, they have proved one thing -- that the greatest nuclear power in the world cannot tolerate a small commune of five thousand people. And the reason for not tolerating is because there is no beggar, no poor, no rich, no classes. Soon America and the whole world will become aware why I have been treated in this way.

I turned a desert into an oasis. Even the richest country, America, has thirty million street people who don't have a place to live, don't have any food for tomorrow. And we invited that if any street people want to come and join us, we are open. Two hundred people joined us and they were as happy as they never had been. They had houses, they had plenty food, they had clothes, medical facilities and a dignity of human being.

So it is not easy to erase it. They will repent for it. What they have done, they will suffer for it. It has made clear many points.

One, that Soviet Union was under wrong impression. They were persecuting our sannyasins in Soviet Union thinking that they are American agents. Now that fallacy can be dropped. Now Soviet Union should be more respectful of the sannyasins who are in Soviet Russia and if it has guts it should invite us to make the commune in Soviet Russia to show to the whole world that what America cannot do we can do.

My approach is that I will go on condemning American government 'til it becomes absolutely clear that if there is going to be any third world war it will not be between America and Russia, it will be between America and the whole world -- not only the whole world, it will be the American fascist government, the whole world and the American people.

They don't know what is in the seed, what they have done will grow. They have cut their throat themselves.

And I feel it is a significant phenomenon that has happened. Just a little time and you will see that America loses all its hypocrisy of being democratic, even in the eyes of American people.

In each jail where I was, the authorities became friendly with me. They themselves said that, "This is absurd harassment. We don't see any point in it -- except that they want to force you to leave the country. You have not committed any crime, that is so clear."

If the government authorities feel like that, and everywhere when they took me from one jail to another jail, people on the roads were greeting me and wishing me victory.

I was a foreigner to them, unknown to them, but they could see what is happening.

Those twelve days in America's jails has helped me and my thinking tremendously. It has become now a world-wide phenomenon. Everybody, every house, knows about it. And they cannot do the same to another commune in another country any more. They will have to learn something from this experience.

And the American sannyasins are not willing to move from the commune. The commune will continue and will go on spreading my thoughts.

So they have not achieved anything except condemnation.

And as far as I am concerned, I enjoyed the whole experience.

I could see double faces, same person you meet outside -- the sheriff or the marshal, and he is so nice and when he takes you into the jail he becomes almost animal. The change was so dramatic.

Secondly, I could see that the people who are inside the jail -- thousands of people are inside the jails, none of them is white, all are black. And that shows completely that as if crimes are committed only by blacks and most of these people are being kept into jail, pretrial, six months, eight months.

One man told me that for nine months he has been in jail waiting for the trial. He does not know what crime he has committed. Nobody tells him. They simply say, "Wait. When your time comes, you will go to the court." They have already punished him nine months without proving his guilt.

The basic foundation of justice is that unless guilt is proved a man is innocent.

Innocence needs no proof.

Guilt needs proof.

And to keep people without proving their guilt is so ugly and so fascist, so inhuman.

And all the people, I was surprised, were black. So it seems the jail is simply a facade to put the blacks inside who are rebellious and who want their rights -- for any simple reason, just put them and keep them tortured for months together, because in the trial they will be released.

The third thing I came to know: that the law enforcement authorities, the government, the police, the jailers, are not so human as the criminals inside the jail. I was simply amazed at their humanity.

I will ask the jail authorities that, "I need toothpaste. I need a brush. I need a comb."

"It will be coming."

It will take two days, three days, and then toothbrush will come and paste will not come, or the paste will come and brush will not come. And by the time it has come, I am removed to another jail.

I cannot take those things. They have to be left there.

But I was amazed. As I asked these authorities, the inmates in the other cells will start bringing things to me. That, "Osho, I have not used it. It's absolutely new. And don't depend on those people. They will torture you. They will not give you. This is the soap."

Somebody will come with a paste. Somebody will come with a brush. Somebody will come with a comb. Somebody will come with an extra pillow.

Somebody will give a better blanket.

They put me in one jail with a confirmed high-risk herpes patient whose cell has remained without any other inmate -- it has place for two -- for six months, because anybody can catch herpes very easily and once you have it you have to live your whole life with it, there is no cure for it. And they put me there. And immediately the inmate by the side, who was a man from Cuba -- he did not know much English, but still he tried to write. And said, "Osho, that they have knowingly put you in that cell. The man has confirmed herpes and they want you to suffer with herpes your whole life."

I called the jailer and showed him the piece. And I said to him, "It seems that criminals are more human than you. In fact, the criminals should run the jail and you should be the prisoners."

He immediately changed.

I said, "Did not you know it before? Six months you have kept that man alone."

They were afraid of only one thing. And they were informing whenever they will take me from one jail to another jail, they will whisper to the man that, "Be careful. He is a world celebrity, and the whole news media is around him. If anything goes wrong and he utters a single word, you are condemned."

So the news media was my only protection.

They were afraid that I will say everything to news media and they will spread the whole thing around the world.

And it is very natural that in such circumstances everybody turns sympathetic.

The whole American news media was absolutely sympathetic. And they kept watch continuously for twelve days where I am, where I am going to be moved. Their helicopters and their cars and their cameras were always ready everywhere. So they could not keep me in a place where nobody knows. They tried their hard, but they could not manage it.

I must appreciate the American press media. It is something that should be followed around the world.

For example, television in many countries is government controlled. So it is just a propagation machine for the politicians.

In many governments radio is controlled.

And in few governments even newspapers are controlled. No private newspapers.

I think this is very ugly and very dangerous.

In America, all news media is free -- television, radio, newspaper. No government hold on it. Then it becomes a force against any injustice, any government is afraid of it because it creates the opinion of the people.

I would like in India also that radio and television are no more government controlled. That should be part of democracy. Otherwise what the people have? If they want to express their opinion, they don't have anything. The newspapers are controlled by super rich people who cannot go against government. Radio is government. Television is government.

If the same situation was in America, they could have killed me and nobody would have known even. They would have kept me for years.

For the first time I became aware that news media should be absolutely free from government control. Then it is a check on the bureaucracy and the government -- that they cannot do anything wrong.

And they should be given more freedom of expression.

I praise American news media.

OSHO, VIVEKANAND SAID IF HE COULD GET A HUNDRED PEOPLE HE WILL TRANSFORM THE WHOLE WORLD.
YOU COMMENTED THAT VIVEKANAND DIED DISAPPOINTED. BUT YOU WILL MOVE AROUND, LOOK INTO THE EVERY EYE AND PULL OUT THE POTENTIAL SOUL WHO CAN BECOME THE LIGHT.
HOW FAR HAVE YOU SUCCEEDED?

I am almost succeeded.

I have found one million sannyasins around the world, and at least five million people who are sympathetic. And for them I have opened the door by dropping red clothes and mala, they can become sannyasins without any fear of losing job or wife or parents. I have found those people.

And I am absolutely certain that we are going to change the world.

I am not going to die disappointed.

I have lived without any disappointment. How can I die with disappoint-ment?

Everything is going perfectly right as it should go. Even if governments start torturing sannyasins, it is perfectly right. That's how steel is created out of man, and that's how their potential gets the challenge.

So we are in a better condition after this American experience.

And we are going to change the world because there is nobody else to do it. Either the world will die or we will change it. These are the only two alternatives the world can choose.

And I don't think anybody will choose to die.

IN THE SAME CONTEXT, OSHO, WOULD YOU THINK THAT IF TWO HUNDRED ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE ARE PLACED AROUND THE WORLD, THE THIRD WORLD WAR COULD BE AVOIDED?

He is right.

And I am working on the same number, two hundred is perfect.

And we are coming closer.

But soon we will be able to declare that two hundred people are enlightened.

Even declaration is not needed. Their presence will change the world.

What Gurdjieff could not do, we can do -- because Gurdjieff had a very small following.

Secondly, the third world war was too far away. People don't think of far away things. Their vision has a limitation.

But now the third war is coming closer and closer and closer, and the decision has to be taken.

Our people are preparing for two hundred enlightened people. It is the right moment. The world is coming closer and the two hundred people becoming enlightened -- that moment is coming closer.

It was not possible in Gurdjieff's time. Even if he had made two hundred people enlightened, the third world war was far away. He died in 1950.

The third world war will happen somewhere near 1999. There is time and we can put a stop to it. In the same context you answered one question that, "I am doing the same work as Shri Kuri Baba(*) -- what he wanted to do in Nepal and that time, the time was not ripe; but

time is ripe, and I will do this."

WHAT IS -- WHAT WAS THAT WORK THAT HE WANTED TO DO AND HE COULDN'T DO?

All the enlightened people are doing the same work.
The work is that man has come from animals.

Charles Darwin may not be literally true, but essentially he is true -- that man carries much of animality in him. And the only way to drop that animality is to create something higher in man which can see the animality. Man as such cannot see it. He is engulfed by it.

So all the enlightened people have been doing the same thing -- to create a point of witnessing so that a man can become aware how much is animal in him. And the miracle is, the moment you become aware of it it disappears. Awareness is enough for its disappearance.

The work is the same -- Buddha, Shri Kuri(*) Baba or Gurdjieff -- the work is the same.

But we are in a better position than all of them because the third world war is going to destroy the whole humanity. The humanity has to think of some way that its animal instincts drop because those are the instincts that create war and anger and violence.

There is no other way except meditation -- to find something higher in you, bigger than you, more luminous, so that the darkness disappears.
So we are in the most opportune moment in the whole history of man.

And if we fail, the whole humanity and all its efforts fail with us. And it is not a simple failure -- it is not only our failure. This whole universe is dead except this small earth. If this earth also dies, the whole universe loses life and consciousness -- which takes millions of years again to produce life and then consciousness, then a buddha.

So much is at risk that I don't think humanity will decide to commit suicide. Just we have to spread meditation as far as possible.

That's why I have dissolved any religious connotation, so that a Mohammedan can meditate and still remain Mohammedan -- so Mohammedans don't feel any fear from us; a Hindu can remain a Hindu and still meditate -- to make meditation available to all without any condition, whether he is Hindu, Jew, Christian.

I had dropped the idea that we are a new religion. Out of compassion, I have dropped the whole idea.
We are only a meditation movement.
Anybody can participate.

And the beauty is that if somebody meditates, sooner or later his Mohammedanism will disappear, his Hinduism will disappear. They cannot remain with meditation. So why bother about their Hinduism and Mohammedanism when we have a secret which will automatically disperse all darkness in their minds.

And I want meditation to become almost universal. And it can become universal only if it is not attached to any religion, to any politics, to any ideology -- and it is not. It is a simple method. Even an atheist can do it -- there is no problem. We don't ask him to believe in God, we don't ask him to believe in anything. We simply ask him that, "Here is a method you can try. Hypothetically if you find something, good. If you don't find, you drop it." And anybody who has tried meditation has never come empty-handed back.

OSHO, IN WOODLANDS YOU WERE SPEAKING TO A SMALL GROUP OF SEEKERS AND YOU GAVE THE RARE BOOKS LIKE (INAUDIBLE -- TITLE IN HINDI), THE BOOK OF THE SACRED (INAUDIBLE -- TITLE IN HINDI) "YOGA, THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA" TO TRANSFORM THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. LATER ON, TALKING TO THE COMPARATIVELY BIG MASSES, YOU WERE GIVING YOUR INSIGHT MORE ON SOCIAL, ECONOMICAL, POLITICAL, MORE AND RELIGIOUS ISSUES. RECENTLY, YOU DECLARED THAT YOU WILL LIVE WITH A SMALL GROUP OF SANNYASINS ONLY. WILL YOU TAKE US INTO THE SUBTLE AND SIGNIFICANT DIMENSION OF INNER TRANSFORMATION?

Certainly, because now I will not be creating a big commune -- because that takes much of the effort.

I will be living with a small group of fifty, sixty people. People can come and go, stay and go; but will never be more than hundred people. So I can talk to them on more subtler grounds, on deeper layers of being.

And all that will be available to all the communes and all the world.

But my difficulty is as it has always been the difficulty of my type of people -- I cannot write, for the simple reason it is as if writing a letter to no one. What you can write to no one? I can only talk. Because there is a responsive heart.

So these fifty people will be the closest group with absolute openness, receptive, responsive. So I can say anything that masses won't understand immediately, and then these things can be spread to the communes by tapes, by books, and then to the wider masses.

But I feel it now more to go into the secrets. And that is possible only with people who are willing to go with me. So these fifty people will not be fifty in fact; it will almost be one consciousness with whom I will be in communion.

I don't think there will be a big commune around me.

Big communes will be around the world everywhere, but around me will only be a chosen few -- because bigger the commune then you have to talk to those people also who are not so receptive, not so open.

Now I want just a small group which is utterly open so I can pour my being totally without any hindrance, and this will be the peak of my work.

OSHO, MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN UNANSWERED ON (INAUDIBLE-TITLE IN HINDI). "BOOK OF THE SECRETS", WILL YOU START TAKING THOSE QUESTIONS WHEN YOU ARE FREE?

Yes, When I am starting, I will take.

OSHO, WHAT IS YOUR MESSAGE FOR THE SANNYASINS AND LOVERS AROUND THE WORLD WHO ARE THIRSTY OF YOUR DARSHAN AND YOUR GUIDANCE?

Soon it will be settled.

Once I settle somewhere, then people can come in groups, can remain few days with me and then go back to their commune.

And my message will be reaching to them everyday. If we can get a really big land, we may have an annual festival so all people can come and be with me for three weeks, they will make arrangements. They will not remain thirsty.

Mohammed has said -- and I have quoted him many times, that the thirsty has to come to the well, the well cannot go to the thirsty.

At this moment I would like to say something more deeper. It is good if the thirsty can come to the well. If he cannot come, then for the first time I am opening a new door -- the well will go to the thirsty.

If it is needed, then I will move around the world visiting every commune for few days. That will be easier than thousands of people coming and wasting money. I can move around the world. That is not much of a problem. And each commune can have a place for me so that remains my symbolic presence there. I will be staying there once or twice a year. They can meditate there.

In Mohammed's time it was difficult for wells to travel. Now it is possible.

WILL YOU TAKE ONE MORE QUESTION? OSHO, THIS BEAUTIFUL VALLEY IS CALLED THE "VALLEY OF GODS." DID PEOPLE KNOW IN THEIR COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUSNESS THAT POSSIBILITY OF A GODMAN LIKE YOU WILL COME HERE AND MAKE THIS NAME MATERIALIZE?

The valley is so beautiful and the people are so innocent, and when it was called the "Valley of the Gods" it was far more beautiful, far more green.

It is possible that the unconscious of the country may have called it a "Valley of Gods" because if I remain here then I am going to create two hundred gods -- that's what two hundred enlightened people mean.

And for the first time the valley will have not only a name but a reality.

Okay.

Press Conference

Chapter #11
Chapter title: None

4 January 1986 pm in Kathmandu, Nepal

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QUESTION: MY HUSBAND (INAUDIBLE) IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE WEST (INAUDIBLE)

ANSWER: Yes.

Q: (INAUDIBLE) I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR (INAUDIBLE)

A: I have not changed anything. I have simply said to inform the press, because the press was waiting outside, and it was something sensational for them. For all those people who have these news media in their friends(?), or in their minds, it will be very satisfying for them; they are looking for it. I simply gave them some food that they enjoy.

But I have not changed anything. The press is still sensational. It is not at the stature of literature, and I want it one day to become literature.

Q: (INAUDIBLE) EVERY COUNTRY HAS A (INAUDIBLE) DEMOCRACY (INAUDIBLE). ONE THING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU: HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE (INAUDIBLE & LAUGHTER)

A: There is no ma(inaudible). Please, forgive me, I cannot answer for anybody else who is absent.

Q: (INAUDIBLE)

A: You have to ask the question to Osho.

Q: OSHO ...

A: Right!

Q: HOW DOES IT FEEL, OSHO, TO BE A MASTER ORATOR?

A: I am not a master orator. I have never learned oratory. I just know how to communicate simply, straightforwardly, with human beings. I am simply talking to you. I am not an orator. Orators are politicians; orators are missionaries. I am not a missionary; I am not trying to convince anything; I am not trying to attract voters to me. I am simply talking to you. And I *know* that if you can talk heart to heart, it reaches to the deepest core of human beings. But I am not an orator.

Q: (INAUDIBLE) THE PROCESS OF MEDITATION, AND IN THIS PROCESS OF MEDITATION, (INAUDIBLE) BUT IN MEDITATIONS (INAUDIBLE) SO I WOULD LIKE TO GET ENLIGHTENMENT FROM YOU ABOUT THIS SAYING OF ULTIMATE BEINGS (INAUDIBLE)
HOW CAN ONE (INAUDIBLE) THE QUESTIONS OF MEDITATIONS AND BE IN THE ULTIMATE BEING AS YOU HAVE SAID IN THAT BOOK OF MEDITATIONS?

A: (inaudible) Meditation is the simplest thing in the world. But because it is a very simple thing, we find it difficult to understand. It is easier for human mind to understand difficult things. Simple things, obviously very simple, are the most difficult.

Meditation simply means that you are silent; that there are not thoughts in the mind; that there is an immense space with no clouds, thoughts. And in that space, there is only one thing left, which is the witness, or the consciousness. You can give it any name. Different meditators have given different names.

You can call 'aloneness'. That is the name given by Jainism; they call it *kavalya*. Kavalya means aloneness.

Gautam Buddha calls it *nirvana*, and nirvana means 'blowing off the candle'. When there is a candle, and you blow it off, suddenly there is darkness and absolute silence. In the same way, when you ego is no more there, just pure consciousness, there is immense silence, as deep as darkness.

And there are others who have called it 'ultimate consciousness', 'absolute truth'. These are simply words. Don't get puzzled into words. Let it remain very simple.

I repeat again: Meditation means you are without any thoughts, absolutely mind has stopped, time has stopped. You are surrounded by nothingness, but in the middle of the nothingness, there is a centre of cyclone. And that centre of cyclone is your reality.

You can give it any name. But make it simple! Big names unecessarily can create troubles for meditation. Keep it ordinary! I call it absolute ordinariness, absolute simplicity,

innocence, just like a child who is born this very moment, opens his eyes, has no thoughts, is just a witness. And that is why many sages have said that meditation makes you a child again; you are reborn. It is so simple, just as a child.

But big words like absolute, ultimate, brahma, (indaudible), they can create trouble for you. They are given by philosophers to us, and a meditator need not be a philosopher, and a philosopher need not be a meditator. A philosopher deals with words, and the meditator deals with wordlessness. There are two different ways of approaching truth. The philosopher *thinks* about it. And the meditator *experiences* it; he does not *think* about it.

And my simple suggestion is: rather than thinking about it, please experience it. There are few things which can be experienced easily but cannot be explained so easily. They are just like a taste. You know what sweetness is. But it is a taste! If you have not tasted it, the word sweetness means nothing to you. Howsoever it can be explained in different ways it remains meaningless. You simply need just to sip a little tea and taste the sugar.

Avoid big words, and just sit silently whenever you can manage, in the middle of the night when the whole family has gone to sleep, and the whole city is silent, just sit in your bed silently. It need not be for hours; it may be just seconds. Just a single second of silence is as big as eternity itself.

But don't philosophise about it. Try to experience it. Experience is very simple; philosophising is very difficult and it leads nowhere.

Q: (INAUDIBLE) THERE ARE MANY OTHER THINGS....

A: No, no. Because there are many other people...(not clear what is question and what is Osho speaking)

Q: MY QUESTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN CLEAR.

A: You can come certainly because I can understand your question is personal.

Q: MR. BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH, ... FEW QUESTIONS. ONE: WHY YOU HAVE TAKEN TO (INAUDIBLE) SO MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT YOU ARE NOT A BHAGWAN OR A GURU, YOU ARE A (INAUDIBLE)

A: That's perfectly right! There has never been any guru in the world. There have been only perfectly spiritual (inaudible). And I am one of the most successful!

Q: (INAUDIBLE) I WANT TO SUGGEST SOME (INAUDIBLE) BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH (INAUDIBLE) THE DEMOCRACY (INAUDIBLE) COMMUNISM. BUT NOW YOU ARE SUPPORTER OF COMMUNISM, AND PLEASE CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THIS (INAUDIBLE)
Q: HE WANTS TO KNOW (INAUDIBLE) COMMUNISM RIGHT NOW (INAUDIBLE)

A: I am still the same. I have not changed anything. I have always criticised Soviet

Union. And not because I am against communism but because, in the name of communism, Soviet Union has destroyed freedom, individuality, and made a whole country a big concentration camp.

I have always been against the dictatorship that exists in Soviet Union. I am not against all people becoming richer; all people having the EQUAL opportunity to grow. I believe in equal opportunity but I don't believe in equality.

Let me explain it. Equal opportunity should be available to every human being for education, for culture, for development. Equal opportunity for everybody to be unequal and to be unique. Somebody has become a painter, and somebody will become a musician. Both should get equal opportunity but that does not mean that both should remain equal and become equal. In fact, equal opportunity is real communism.

For real communism I have been against what exists in Soviet Russia. It is not real communism; it is simply a change of the structure. In place of the capitalists and rich people, now there are bureaucrats, communist dictators. The poor are still poor. After seventy years of the Revolution the poor are not rich at all. Only one thing has happened: now everybody is equally poor.

If you want this kind of equality, I am not a supporter of it. I want you to have equal opportunity but not equal poverty. And even after seventy years, it is under absolute dictatorial regime that the Soviet citizen has to exist. He has no freedom of speach; he has no freedom of writing; he has no freedom of movement.

Even a man like Sakarov who is one of the best minds available in the world today -- he has gone further into physics than Albert Einstein. He was the Director of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the highest post in Soviet land for a scientist to achieve. He was given Nobel Prize, and Soviet government said to him, "You cannot accept it".

Sakarov said, "It is my freedom to accept it or not to accept. It is not the business of the government. It is my personal recognition. And I would not like to be interfered. And it is not doing any harm to you, or anybody."

Just because he accepted the Nobel Prize he has been thrown in Siberia, deprived of his post, all the facilities that he was given. And the best mind is rotting in Siberia, who could have given to humanity further insights into physics. Perhaps it will take centuries to produce another man of his quality. Just for a small difference with the government in which government was absolutely wrong! He was not doing any harm, simply accepting Nobel Prize!

But the Soviet government is such that you cannot go against it in any matter. It has reduced every individual into a robot. That is why I had always criticised it. And I am still criticising it.

What has changed is that I have always thought that America is democratic. It is not. That's why I have said that in America and Soviet Union there is nothing much to choose. America has only a face of democracy. Inside it is the same fascist mind which exists in Soviet Union. The change is in my attitude towards America not towards Soviet Russia.

My appreciation about America is being destroyed by America itslef. They have lost a friend. And I am going all over the world to expose them. And now they are becoming aware that it was a mistake to misbehave with me because they have taken an unnecessary risk. Now they are trying governments, for example they immediately pressured Germany that they should make a law I cannot enter Germany. Afraid that I have many sannyasins in Germany and six communes where thousands of sannyasins live together. They thought that once I leave America I may go to Germany.

Before I left America they immediately passed a law in Germany that I cannot enter. I have never been in Germany; I have never committed any crime. Why a parliament should make a law about a man that he cannot enter in the country *ever*?

Now they are pressurising other governments that I should not be allowed to enter there. But they are wrong. Their pressure is making few governments feel offended. And two South American governments have invited me, that I should come there and make my communes *there*. Those governments I had no idea, and I had never thought about those countries, small South American countries. But just the idea that America should pressurise them has created a revolt in those countries. They have some dignity. And I feel there will be other countries with dignity to invite me.

America cannot prevent me from exposing it to the world that it is not the alternative to Soviet Union. That if there is going to be a Third World War it is not going to be between Soviet Union and America, it is going to be between America and the whole world. Because, you will be surprised to know, America has protected itself. It has put billions of dollars in a very special arrangement to protect the whole United States against nuclear weapons. Now America is the only country who has a protection against nuclear weapons. If any nuclear missile goes towards America, within seven minutes it will be turned back -- America has network invisible around it -- and where it will fall nobody knows; it will fall somewhere.

Now the whole world has to be united because America is thinking only saving itself: 'Let the whole world go to hell!' If this is the attitude of America, that they want to protect only America against the whole humanity, then the whole world has to think again, one time more, that 'We should be united against this protection!' Either the whole world should be protected or nobody should be protected. This is very dangerous.

It means America is now in a position to have a Third World War. And America would like it to have as quickly as possible before Soviet Union develops some protection around itself. Soviet scientists are working hard day and night for protection. So now only two countries will be protected, sooner or later, and the whole world will be unprotected. They will fight and we will die! It is a strange kind of war!

I have not changed my attitude towards Soviet Union. I have changed my attitude certainly towards America.

Q: BHAGWAN, (INAUDIBLE) YOU ARE COMING HERE. YOU ARE COMING FROM (INAUDIBLE) AND VISITORS CAN BE (INAUDIBLE) TO OUR COUNTRY (INAUDIBLE) EVERYBODY IS ASKING IF BHAGWAN IS STAYING WITH US FOREVER, WE CAN PROVIDE YOU A POOR MAN (?) HOUSE. (APPLAUSE)

A: I would love it. To be in a hut will be a palace for me. Just I will be worried only the king may become jealous of me. Say if(?) the king is happy for me having a hut in Nepal, I am absolutely willing.

(Applause and cheering Jai!)